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EDWARD RANDOLPH.



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EDWARD RANDOLPH;

INCLUDING

HIS LETTERS AND OFFICIAL PAPERS FROM THE NEW ENGLAND,
MIDDLE, AND SOUTHERN COLONIES IN AMERICA,
AND THE WEST INDIES.

1678-1700.

VOL. VII.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

THE REV. ALFRED THOMAS SCROPE GOODRICK, A.M.,
FORMERLY FELLOW OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD.

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CII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON HIS ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Plymouth : March . 27th 90 :

S^r

hearing since my arrivall here that Seuerall of our N: Eng^d vessells by which I sent you larg and perticuler accounts of the vnaccountable proceedings of the Rebels in New Eng^d and N: Yorke: I beleiue it my Duty to acquaint you that vpon their receit of his Ma^{ties} letter of the 12th of Aug^t sent from the Earle of Shrewesburyes office the Bostoners haue interpreted that to be an allowance and confirmation of their Rebellion and Gouvern^t also: they haue therevpon proceeded to exercise the fouerain powers: hauing executed two persons vpon the Breach of their Capitall Laws: and haue ordred 6 Rates to be collected thro the whole Colony for paying the men they sent last Summer to the Eastward to no purpose and One Rate and a halfe more in money to defray the present charge of M^r Cooke and Oakes their pretended Agents: all which amounts to about 10000^{lb}: the poeple at our coming away refused to pay those Rates but are dayly threatned to be imprisoned. at the tyme of their Rebellion they lett fall the Customs and Excise hoping thereby to draw the trading men to comply and to submitt to their easye yoake. but the very next day wee were aboard the ship bound for Eng^d the Gen^l Court Ordred all ordinary Keepers to account with the Treasurer for all Beare Wine Syder etc: retailed

retailed by them since the 18 of Aprill last and such as refuse to be rated at *Will* and *Doom* : they expect that his Ma^{tie} will grant them a Charter or at least entrust them wholly with the Gom^t otherwise they will haue no more to do with England. All our Eastern Country from Pemmaquid eastward to Piscataqua is destroyed or deserted for feare of the french and Indians . of which a body of about 400 were at the taking of Pemmaq^d fort :

the french king has recalled the Marques D'nonvell ³⁹³ and has sent in his place Count ffrontinack : who well vnderstands the Southern Indians wee feared his Attack of Albany this Winter will bee soone M^t of it whenever he comes before it : that lost, New York cannot hold out long : he has also sent Mouns Perot in Sep^t last with 2 frigotts to Nova Scotia . where he has begun a larg fortification at Port Royall : and with the helpe of 7 Ketches and a very good Briganteen lately tooke by his frigotts from vs and their masters kept with them will wholly destroy the whale [?] ffishery and not permitt vessells to trade from one port to another.

after M^r Rigs had deliuered his Ma^{ties} letters at Boston . he went to N. York where Leifler was advifed by letters from M^r Bradstreet that his Ma^{tie} did approue of all their proceedings etc : which so farr inflamed him that he forced the letters directed to Cap^t Nicholson from M^t Rigs soon after proclaimed him selfe their Ma^{ties} Leiftn^t Gon^t seizing vpon and imprisoning all persons who do not approue of his actions : he sent Jacob Milburn his Secretary with a force to summon
and

³⁹³ This is of course Denonville, who had been recalled in the autumn of 1689.

and possesse himfelfe of Albany they stood out but accepted of men from the Bostoners and haue admitted their Agents to treat with the 5 Nations of Indians at Albany : which expedition cost them aboue 700th and will turn to their detriment for they went to renew their former Amity with them including in that peace onely the 3 vnited Colonyes : they entertained a Maques Cap^t and 8 or 9 of his men at Boston carried them aboard ship gaue them guns carried them to their castle and there they fired off some of the Guns : and haue acquainted them with a ready way from their Country down to Boston Colony.

I heare Cap^t Nicholson is sayld for virginnia with a Commission for to be Leiftn^t Gon^r I wish him all happines there, but I feare our leprosy of Rebellion which did so soon ouerspread all the Colonyes will in a very short tyme passe Southward to Virginnia vnlesse tymely stopd by effectuall and seuer punishments vpon the Ring leaders : I shall shew you how bitterly they expresse their malice ag^t him wee haue men who trade to Virginnia fitt for that purpose and will account it an act of meritt to debauch that poeple . already vneasy vpon the late high duty on Tobacco : they will remember they once had a charter and from the avowed principles of the Bostoners they haue as good reason to sett it vp againe : and will in a little tyme : if the New-Eng^d Rebels go vnpunishd. I referr you to S^r Edm^d Andros his account of the whole no man being so proper a judge of the State and proper remedies to be made vse of to bring them to a settlement : the inclosed paper Tells the world what interest the Crown has in the Colony of the Massachusetts. I left S^r Ed : and Cap^t
Trefry

Trefry well fryday laſt. pray god fend vs a good meeting
I am S^r your moſt humble Seru^t

ED RANDOLPH

about 300 Chriſtians haue been deſtroyed in the provinces of
New hamp. Maine and the County of Cornwell. (formerly
belonging to N. York) by the Indians and french ſince the
18th of Aprill : and very Rich bootyes carried away

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt

[*Endorſed*] Plimouth 27 Mar 90
From M^r Randolph
new arrived from New England

CIII.

THE CHARGES AGAINST THE PRISONERS.

Board of Trade, New England, Vol. V. no. 82.

(The Charge againſt S^r Edmond Androſs and others)

Matters objected agst Sir Edmund Andros M^r Joſeph
Dudley M^r Palmer M^r Randolph M^r Weſt M^r Graham M^r
Farwell M^r Sherlock and others as occaſions of their Im-
prifom^t in New England.

(1) It is objected againſt Sir Edmund Andros that he be-
ing Governo^r of the Maſſachuſetts Colony after Notice of his
preſent Maj^{ty} Intention to Land in England Iſſued out a
Proclamacon Requireing all perſons to oppoſe any deſcent
of Such as might be Authorized by him Endeavoured to
Stifle

Stifle the News of his landing³⁹⁴ and Caused him that brought this Kings Declaracon thither to be Imprisoned as bringing a Seditious and treasonable Paper.

(2) That in the time of his Government he without forme or Colour of legall Authority made Laws destructive of the Liberty of the People Imposed and Levyed Taxes threatned and Imprisoned them who would not be assisting to the illegall Levies Denied that they had any propertie in their Lands without Pattents from him And dureing the time of Actuall Warr with the Indians he did Supply them with Ammunition,³⁹⁵ and Severall Indians declared that they were Encouraged by him to make Warr upon the English and he discountenanced makeing Defence against the Indians.

(3) As to all the other persons imprisoned they were accomplices and Confederates with Sir Edmund Andros and particularly M^r Dudley, M^r Randolph, and M^r Palmer, were of his Councill and joyn'd with him in his Arbitrary Lawes and Impositions and in threatning and punishing them who would not Comply, M^r West was his Secretary and Guilty of great Extorcon and gave out words which Shewed himself noe freind to the English; M^r Graham was his Attorney at one time and M^r Farwell at another both Concerned in illegall proceedings distructive of the property of the Subject
M^r

³⁹⁴ That the news of William's landing was suppressed seems exceedingly likely from Randolph's language in writing to Sir James Hayes, *supra*, Letter LXXXII., where he speaks (on 6th January, 1689) of "the sad Newes which every vessell is loaden with from England."

³⁹⁵ For the persons who really supplied the enemy with ammunition, see *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1691, no. 1875. On this charge against Andros, see *Andros Tracts, Introduction*, pp. xxvi-xxvii.

M^r Farwell profecuted them who refused to Comply with the illegall Levies and M^r Graham brought Severall Writts of Intrufion againft men for their ow [MS torn] Land And M^r Sherlock an other perfon Imprifon'd Thō not named in the Order acted there for Some Years as an high Sherriffe thō he was a Stranger in the Country and had noe Eftate there dureing his Shreivalty he Impannelled Juries of Strangers who had noe freehold in that Country . And Extorted unreafonable Fees.

Apr. 14th 1690

14 Apr: 1690

[*Endorfed*]

Charges

Ag^t

S^r Edm^d Andros & others

Rec^d from M^r Humphrey

14 Aprill 1690

Read 16 Apr: 1690

Ent^d 115 3^d }
N. England } 194

B. B.

P 19

CIV.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE WAR IN IRELAND.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

Waterford 22 : Aug^t

I arriued vpon the Jarfey frigott at Duncannon fort came heither at 11 this night poft from paffage : where I am made very welcome by Coll: Brewer³⁹⁶ Gon^r of this town.
the

³⁹⁶ For Brewer, see Luttrell's *Diary*, Vol. II. p. 158.

the 30000^{lb} sent to Dublin for the Army . was vpon the News of Saffeilds taking some of the Artilery and Waggon ordred to be sent by sea and is brought heither vpon the Jarfey : I am going to the Camp and hope to be at the taking of Limerick which is supposed will not hold out longer then Sunday or Munday next : 3000 of the Irish which made a Sally out of the town being for the most part cutt off and about 700 hangd by order of L. G. Kerke :³⁹⁷ I am hasting from hence and desire my humble seruice to Madam Winter³⁹⁸ to y^r Lady and to y^r sisters to S^r Ed. Andros whose commands I shall not forgett to M^r Chaplin and to M^r Povey : of my Adventures you may expect an account at my return. I am S^r

Your most humble Seru^t

ED RANDOLPH

M^r Povey I intreat the favour of you to send the inclosed by y^r seru^t as directed ;

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble};
M^r Blathwayt.
at Whitehall:

[*Endorsed*] Waterford 22 Aug : 1690
From M^r Randolph

CV.

³⁹⁷ This remarkable statement is not substantiated by history. As a matter of fact the siege of Limerick was raised, and the town was not captured till the

autumn of the next year, after a siege of some weeks.

³⁹⁸ Blathwayt's mother-in-law : he had married the heiress of the Wynters of Gloucestershire.

CV.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT: THE SIEGE OF LIMERICK.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

from the Camp before Limerick
[Sept.] 29th 90.

S^r:

I thanke god the Camp agrees very well with me and with Coll Leufon³⁹⁹ whom I found very well and Braue ; he desired me to present his seruice to M^r Justice povey to you and M^r Jō. Povey: 27th at 4 in the afternoon . began a sharp assault of the Breach made in the walls of the Irish Town : Coll. Douglas his men much wounded many kild and many officers lost in his Coll Cutts Regiment and the Dutch Regiments, Cutts much wounded and about 20 Dutch officers : they had entered the breach but were repulsed : and the losse most vpon the Granadeeres who were foremost in the Action : the Irish had made a mine in their Trenches which they blew vp so soon as our men entered them. Our men had possession of a Counterſcarp and of the Spurr nigh the Breach but were knockd at head with stones from the walls : and tho the Breach was very large yet the defendants had made it vp with Turfe and had made turn pikes at the entry of the ſtreets so that our men were kild with puffh of pike and hand granadoes. the losse on our side is not known. yesterday a Drummer was sent for

a

³⁹⁹ This is no doubt Col. Leveson pp. 282, 289. Luttrell also mentions (pronounced Lewson), for whose exploits see Luttrell's *Diary*, Vol. II. Col. Douglas with respect (Vol. II. pp. 84, 155).

a parley to bury our dead but they refused it they are stripped and lye in their Trenches and nigh their walls. Our Gunns continue to Batter at the old Breach and at the Bridge betwixt the Old and the New Town. pray god send vs faire weather. this action has very much animated the defend^{ts} wee haue reports of partyes getting together at feuerall places : Cork and Kingfale will be encouraged from hence to hold out. tis difficult to travell the Country. pray god prosper his Ma^{tie} in this as in his former attempts. my humble seruice to y^r Lady to S^r Edm^d Andros to M^r Chaplin and M^r Povey I am S^r your most obliged Ser^t

ED RANDOLPH

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt
at Whitehall
present 10^d
ffrank

[*Endorsed*] Limerick Camp 29 Sept : 90
From M^r Randolph

CVI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON HIS ARRIVAL IN VIRGINIA.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

James Citty : in Virginnia
Aprill 21 : 1692.

S^r

I wrote you by a Leverpool man . whom I mett at sea ye 2 instant, I arriued here ye 5 following, & receiued from Cap^t Nicholson y^r letter of ye 5 of Jan^{ry} inclofing a copy of
yours

yours of the same date to Coll Copley in my favour. he sent ye originall to Maryland by M^r Harpam y^e Coll^s seruant who brought letters from the Coll to Cap^t Nicholson.

the Coll : arriued in ye Alburrow Ketch in york River ye 25 of March the next day Cap^t Nicholson made him a visite at Coll Jennings house, they haue setled a Correspondence which will be of Import to their Ma^{ties} seruice the next day he went to S^t Maryes & I heare well arriued. The Conception ffrigott Cap^t ffairfax Commander mett vs at sea, & kept vs Company into the Capes. I heare no News of S^t Thō. Laurance, the Assistance frigott arriued 2 dayes before & sent y^r Letters with my Instructions from y^e Custome house to Cap^t Nicholson (putt aboard the ship providence at Plymouth) so that I am now qualified to enter vpon busines with the Collectors: the Gen^{ll} assembly began to sitt the day before I came to this town. Cap^t Nicholson ordred my deputation from y^e Custome house to be read to them & entred in their bookes.⁴⁰⁰ & made an Order in Councill directing all officers Civill & military to be aiding to me etc: & That to be published in all their County Courts. he is very strict vpon y^e Collectors & vnwilling any longer to depend vpon their care. he went to Cape Charles & Caused the ship William & Mary of London Thō. Meech M^r from Scotland . to be seized who had entred with one Coll Custis one of ye Councill, & loaded 200 Hogg^{ds} of Tobacco . vpon his producing a false Coquett & 2 countrefeit Certificates onely :

⁴⁰⁰ The despatch with which Nicholson acted may be judged by the fact that Randolph arrived on the 5th of April, his Commission was read on the

6th (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1692, no. 2155) in the Assembly, and in the Council on the 12th.

onely : which makes them troubled that he will not leaue the buſines of ye Cuſtoms to their manage onely as did my L^d Culpepper & L^d Effingham.

An Information was brought ag^t that ſhip in ye Gen^l Court at James town . ye 15th iſtant for ſayling to ye plantations with 3 fourths of the Mariners Scots.⁴⁰¹ but vpon my perſfall of his coquetts which was all wrote in Scotch & pretended to be from Barwick . & his 2 certificates One from Bewmauris to take vp his Bond of 1000^{lb} & ye other from Barwick with the ſame hands of 4 of ye Comm^{rs} of ye Cuſtome houſe to both of them moſt palpably counterfeited, I cauſed her to be proſecuted vpon ye Act of ye 15th of K: C: ye ſecond. Cap^t Nicholſon was very ſevere with Coll Cuſtis . for allowing them . who alſo Traded with Meech. (as all the Collectors formerly haue done with Interlopers & ſtick not out when a profitable cargo offers) but becauſe he was one of ye Councill (forſooth) his brethren very much reſented it, & he is by their mediation continued in his Office till the ſhips which entred with him in the ſpring bee cleered . but ag^t Cap^t Nicholſons will. he has appointed M^r Scarburrow (S^r Charles his Nephew) to ſucceed Coll Cuſtis in that Office, I appeared in Court ag^t ye Interloper (which renders me an vnwelcome Gueſt to ſome of them) but all to no purpoſe for Court & Jury were reſolued to cleer the ſhip making onely a bare order . That the ſhip ſhould be appraiſed & Meech to enter into ſecurity to pay
ye

⁴⁰¹ By the Acts of Trade and Navigation it was required that three-fourths of the crew of a ſhip loading to the colonies muſt be Engliſh ſubjects, Scot-

land, of courſe, being at the time a ſeparate kingdom. Cf. the Summary of the Acts in Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, Book IV. chapter II.

ye value of that appraifment if ye Comm^{rs} of ye Customs did not allow & approue of that Coquett & thofe Certificates : which is a meer sham . & I am confident fince 4 of ye Collectors then on ye Bench being ye major part of the Court would not find for their Ma^{ties} in fo plaine a fraud , I haue no ground to depend vpon their fidelity in matters relating to the Customs where their Intereft & honour lyes at ftake . for they value themfelues much vpon being Patriotts & promoters of the Common good. Some of y^e Burgeffes told me . I was welcome If I came for good of ye Country. howeuer Cap^t Nicholfon would not be fo baukd by them but gaue direftions to ye Commander to putt fome of his men aboard that fhip to bring her vnder his ftern & Convey her to London. he will bring with him the 2 Certificates & her Coquett to ye Comm^r of ye Cufstome houfe.

S^t fo long as the Office of Collector of the Customs is entailed vpon one of ye Councill . it will be never otherwife . vntill ye Comm^{rs} of the Customs do appoint their Offices here as in other plantations . without regard to the qualification of a Councellor : for in the firft place . Not one of the Collectors voutfawe to go a'board fhips vpon their arrivall . nor appoint perfons to do it; but leaue the honeft M^{rs} to do as they please. their cheife bufines is . to fecure ye 2^d p Hogg^d & their fees. (which fome yeares amounts to 150^{lb} a yeare to a Collector) fome of them liue 40 | or | 50 fome 100 miles from places in their deftrict where fhips load tobacco, & when y^e M^{rs} cleere they giue a Content of their Loding vnder their hands in writing & fweare that is all they haue on board (to the beft of their knowledge) which is as much as nothing, Coll Chriftopher Wormley Coll : at Petomack .
liues

liues on ye fouth fide of Rapahannack : he has employed one Coll : Griffin an honest gentl & diligent in his busines but allows him no boat . & but a small salary, so that the Collectors places in virginia are rather perquisites & intended to enrich y^e members of ye Councill then to secure their Ma^{ties} Revennue, which rises or sincks . according to y^e Care or neglect of the managers of it in this place. What can be expected from Coll. Jennings one of ye Councill & Collector of york River (a man otherwise well qualified for ye place) who was putt in by ye L^d Effingham vpon giuing bond to pay his Lords^p 70^{lb} a yeare during his being in that Office. Coll Paige in the vpper part of James River is lately dead. there are 2 or 3 of ye Councill Competitors for that place (Some of them liue very remote euen quite out of ye way of that busines.) but it is hazardous for Capt. Nicholson to break with ye whole Councill in matters which the generall practice of all Gon^{rs} haue allowed . till he haue an expresse order to make an alteration fundamentally amongst them : The Tryall of ye Interloper is ouer & I am quite tyred with the starchd Conuersation & Spannish Gravity of y^e Gen^{ll} Assembly . & hearing of some Interlopers on Maryland fide J am going that way & may perhaps step as far as NewCastle in delaware bay : lying between hawk & Buzard . has been made a free port . from thence Dutch & Scotch goods are imported into Maryland . & tobacco from Maryland to vessells at NewCastle . which carry it directly to holland & Scotland. I know not wheither I may haue the good fortune to meet with any of them but it will be a seruice to their Ma^{ties} to lett the poeple know that I am yet aliue & ready att all tymes to bid them welcome : Cap^t Nicholson
during

during the troubles in Maryland tooke all the care he could with the Officers of ye Customs there to be diligent in their dutyes the Great man M^r Blacstone⁴⁰² has been very remisse . & now the affaires of state elevate him aboue that of ye Custome house : I hope to gett y^r Commiffion allowed of there (the Convention fitting as I am told ye 10th of next month)

S^r I haue wrote to ye Comm^{rs} of the Customs by this conveyance but dare not in my first addresse been so perticuler as I haue been to you neither am I willing they should know of my going to Maryland as yet because by their Instructions I am to stay here till till I haue Compleated my Survey : my arrivall so late in ye yeare will not suffer me to provide so much black walnutt wood as I intended to haue done. I find in all respects between Virginnia & ye Notions I had of the place when I was at the Plantation Office. Cap^t Nicholson is sincere & indefatigable in their Ma^{ties} seruice he will send you some black Walnutt to Bristoll. I hope for some at Maryland. I had forgott to mention to you that till there be here a Court of Exchequer to trye causes of ye Crown erected : with an able resolute Judg sent heither from Eng^d. Jt will be to no purpose for me to seize Interlopers or putt their Bonds in suite. my humble seruice to all freinds I write to S^r Rob^t Southwell some parts of the Contents hereof, I am not able to write duplicates of all my letters if so I can do nothing else but write: pray lett me haue the
favour

⁴⁰² Nehemiah Blakiston's career until his death is sufficiently traced in the succeeding letters. He had been a supporter of John Coode in his rebellion

against Lord Baltimore's rule (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1690, no. 964, etc.).

favour of y^r Commands by all oppertunityes. It would exceedingly promote Correspondence if the L^{ds} of ye Committee for trade would please to order that before any ship bound heither haue their Certificate from ye Custome house that you haue tymely notice of it. wee had a vessell in 6 weekes from Liverpool which came out in ffe^{bry} last wishing you all happines in the health & prosperity of ye little M^{rs} & pritty Misse I am S^r

your most humble & most faithfull fert.

ED RANDOLPH /

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt :
at Whitehall
humbly present.

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a 21 Apr 92
From M^r Randolph

CVII.

RANDOLPH TO POVEY ON HIS RECEPTION BY COPLEY.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r S^t Maryes in Maryland
May 12. 1692 :

The information I had of some interlopers being in the Eastern harbors of this province together with a desire to see what Coll Copley will do about M^r Blathwayts Commiffion of Auditor⁴⁰³ etc. hastens my coming heither. I find him
grown

⁴⁰³ There is among the Blathwayt Copley dated 26th June, 1692, in which, documents a complaining letter from after throwing doubts upon Blathwayt's commiffion

grown very fatt he drinks much & pleases himfelfe in amufing the Eafye hearers with larg & fulfome difcourfes of his conduct in obtaining this Gom^t he promifed me to promote M^r Blathwayts intereft. but was not pleased to find it not renewed in K: W: tyme, & in his cupps told me, he was a great Enemy to K: W: and Q: M: in not entring true Minues in my L^d Baltamores cafe: I fpend my morning in doing little the Gon^t not rifing till 11 or 12: I am going to Summerfett County in this province. where the Scotch Interlopers haue beat ye Englifh out of all Trade, about 14 are already fayld fome yet remaining, if I can not feize them now. I hope to difcourage their coming another yeare, The 10th the Gen^l Affembly began to fitt the Gon^t tho' very much indisposed held vp to make them a fpeech. foon after had an Apoplectick fitt.⁴⁰⁴ & is dangerously fick. this aire & intemperance will foon make room for another: I haue feen M^r Blackftone their prefid^t as full of flattery tho not fo crafty as M^r Dudley. the Councill is compofed of fhreds like a Taylers cushion. of fome Englifh Scotch & Irifh. the latter are open abettors of the illegall Trade: the
people

commiffion of Auditor General as iffued only in King Charles's reign, he goes on to complain of "the bafe and ungentlemanly practices of Lord Baltimore againft me, when in England by offering my Creditors their Debtds [sic] and fumms of money to Baliffs to ftop my paffage"; and he appeals to his family connections. (He was apparently of the Yorkfhire family of the name, feated at Sprotborough.) Blathwayt's reply is fharp; after juftifying his commiffion he goes on: "I have forborn to make my complaint to the

L^{ds} of the Treafury whose fubordinate I am for the very reafon you mention — which is my refpect for your family and confideracion." The *Narrative and Critical History of America* (Vol. V. p. 259) wrongly fpeaks of Copley as Sir Lionel Copley.

⁴⁰⁴ The fpeech is given below. The attack feems to have occurred before the next day's meeting, when Blakifton prefided in confequence of Copley's indisposition (*Calendar of State Papers, America and Weft Indies*, 1692, no. 2225).

people as yet haue this Gon^r in great admiration, tho' not a few know his circumstances at home: & feare he will proue another man in tyme. here is no fetled communication betwixt this place and virginnia. I find it very difficult & exceffiue chargeable in travelling here, my humble seruice to M^r Blathwayt . to M^r Chaplin & to M^r Parry. pray deliver the inclosed as directed I am S^r

y^r most humble & most obliged ser^v^t

ED RANDOLPH.

to M^r Povey

a duplicate by Cap^t Perigrine Brown Command: of ye
Bayley of London.

[*Endorsed*]

S^t Mary's

Maryland | 12 May 1692

From M Randolph

Rec^d 19 July 92

[*Addressed*]

ffor their Ma^{tis} speciall seruice

To the Hon^{ble}

Mr Blathwayt

at Whitehall.

by Cap^t John Brown Commdr.

of the Ship Will & Mary of

London.

CVIII.

RANDOLPH TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS ON THE VIRGINIA COLLECTORS.

America and West Indies, 637. no. 110.

(Copy of M^r. Randolph's L^{re} & to y^e Com^{rs} of the Customs)

James Citty June 27th 1692

May it please yo^r Hon^{rs}

By mine of ye 21 of Apr^{ll} past sent yo^r Hon^{rs} under L^t Govern^{rs} Nicholsons Cover & duplicates of y^e same date by Cap^t. Scott of Bristoll to which I humbly referr yo^r Hon^{rs}. I inform'd y^t upon my arrivall here I found ye Gen^{ll} assembly fitting & could not then enter upon my survey with ye Collect^{rs} being all members of ye Councill, ye L^t Govern^r had Caused ye shippes W^m & Mary of London (Tho^s. Meech A Scotchman & an old transgressor M^r.) to be seiz'd she was admitted by Co^{ll} Custis late Collect^r. at accomack to trade tho: his Coquet & Certificates are forgd (which L^t Govern^r Nicholson sends to yo^r Hon^{rs} by this shipping) I assisted ye Inform^r. to prosecute Meech's ship upon breach of ye Act for encouragm^t. of Trade att ye tryall his Coquet & Certif^{tes} by comparing them in Court before ye Jury with severall of yo^r Hon^{rs}. Letters & with true Certif^{tes} by w^{ch} they appeared to be Counterfiete y^e Jury brought in a Speciall verdict referring y^e matter to ye Court. Co^{ll}. Cole ye President wth ye 2 Wormleys & Co^{ll}. Jennings all Collect^{rs} of ye Customs & ye maj^r. part upon ye bench did not see cause to give Judgm^t. for their Maj^{ts}. but in stead thereof made an order made use of
in

in Meech's favour who is since sayld giving 500^{lb} security to answer ye value of ye ship & goods haveing nigh 300 hds of Tob^{bb}: aboard all of itt apprized (Ship & Cargoe) but at 371^{lb} (the worth above 1000^{lb} ster.^{ll}) if he doe not procure a Certif^{te} under yo^r Hon^{rs} hands & seale y^t his goods Imported this last voyage were legally Loden aboard at Berwick & y^t his Coquet was good : & also his Certif^{te} to take up his bond last year were so Likewise.

Upon Informa^t y^t Jones & Guin M^{rs} of 2 New Engl^d vessells belonging to Boston were loading Tob^{bb}: in Potomocke River nigh M^r Blackstones house Collec^t: of ye Customs on Maryld side & also y^t 2 ships from Scotland were lately arrived att ye Eastern shore of y^t Province I made all possible speed to Co^{ll} Copley their Maj^{ts} Gov^r at S^t Maries where I Came ye 4th of May & having my deputa^t: from yo^r Hon^{rs} registred I went from thence to M^r Blackstones to examine his books & acc^{ts} & to see what security those new Engl^d mast^{rs} had given & also w^t goods they Imported & from w^t place I met him within a mile from his house pretending hee was going to S^t Maries wth some difficulty he returnd wth mee, I told him I had great reason to believe y^t ye 2 New Engl^d ships were bound for Scotland in regard Bourland a Scotch Merc^t who lives in boston & Colours Scotch shipping was Owner of Guin's shipp & I believe of Jones's also, m^r Blackstone excused my not seeing his books & papers or his shewing me their security telling mee his Clerk was from home but would give me full satisfact^t: in all those matters att S^t Maries from thence I went to M^r Plater Collec^t: of ye Customs att Petuxent River he shew'd me a foul entry of some vessells made wth him this year but in no

Regular

Regular Method he told me he was not possesst wth ye books & papers of M^r Paine (late Collect^r there) w^{ch} office Abington an Ordinary Keeper Managed till put out & Plater made y^e Officer by m^r Blackstons procurem^t) & y^t he could not get them without my Order w^{ch} I gave & soon after they were delivered to him amongst w^{ch} he found severall bonds & no Certificates to discharge y^m 14 of which I ordered to be put in suite; some time after I met m^r Blackstone att S^t Maries & in ye Gov^r p^rfence demanded of him to see Jones & Guin's bonds he told me they were in ye Navall Officer's hands &c I desired ye Gov^r to lay his Com^{mands} upon him not to clear those vessels till I was satisfi^d in their security & then wth much difficulty I got a passage over ye bay to somerset County on ye eastern shore in Maryld upon my landing I went to Maj^r Rob^t King then Navall officer appointed in ye late revolution I found ye ship providence of London 80 Toñ W^m Makay of lond^{derry} M^r entred ye 8th of Apr^{ll} last he hath imported a larg Cargoe of Scotch goods from Berwick as his forgd Coquet of ye 15th day of x^{tr} 1691 mentions wrote in broad scotch ye M^r entring outward for virginia as appears by ye enclosed Coppy thereof (N^o 1) I found Y^t his Certific^{te} of ye 26th day of Novemb^r last was from Berwick & forgd also fil'd vp wth some scotch words & in y^t Certif^{te} he is mention'd to be bound for virg^a The ship Catherine of lond^{derry} 50 Toñ Andrew Crookshanks M^r entred wth that Officer ye 16th of Apr^{ll} following & left with him a Coquet only dated itt Whitehaven ye 13th of Octob^r 1691 not mentioning to w^t port he was bound his & Makay's goods were all scotch Manufacture Makay loaded att leith & Crookshanks there or at Glascoe I seiz'd Makays ship ye 23^d of May in
Annameffex

Annameffex & Crookshanks barque on ye 27th following in Manokin m^r Layfield Collect^r of ye Customs in ye district had signed both ye Coquet & Certif^{te} allowing them to be good & y^e Navall officer sd he believed also they were good they had each of y^m a Scotch servant out of Makay's Ship but ye termes I know not I return'd ye 30th following to S^t Maries & acquainted ye Gov^r I had seiz'd 2 scotch Vessells and desired a Court for speedy Tryall appointed to be held on ye first of June following during my Absence m^r Blackstone had Cleared ye 2 New Eng^{ld} shippes which sayld 10 days before I Charged him wth itt before ye Gov^r he sd they must admit of w^t security ye Country afforded or must take none, the sherrif who was to summon ye Jury for y^t Court was a Scotch Irishman & had returned a Jury of known Scotch & Others their friends ye Court consisted of 5 of ye Members of ye Councill most of them very unfitt to try a Cause of y^t Nature I entred upon Crookshanks business first but Maj^r King (to whom Crookshanks was recom^{end}'d by ye Owners in Ireland) oppos'd itt alleaging y^t Cr-shanks having killd one of his Saylor's att sea could not appear I expected ye Mate who was on board when I made ye seizure & entred her wth ye Navall Officer to defend but ye Court deferr'd y^t till another time I then proceeded ag^t Makay's ship for Importing goods not Legally shipt in Eng^{ld} &c & proved in Court by ye Oath of Hugh Moore a Scotch Minister passenger in Makay's ship from Leith to Maryld y^t they Sayled from thence towards Barwick y^t she stood off & on till W^m Monteith a Scotchman borne & M^{ret} of ye ship brought wth him an Officer aboard of ye Customs (as he said) from Barwick yⁿ ye hatches were opned & some goods hoised

up

up upon deck they were viewed by ye p^rtended Officer as ye M^r fd & then he received his Coquet More further depofed y^t during ye whole time ye fhip lay oft Berwick w^{ch} was above 24 houres fhe came not to an Anchor y^e M^r would fwear in Court y^t all ye goods he had imported were entred in his Coquet but ye Court would not upon his Oath ask him att w^t port he took them on board m^r Addifon One of ye Judges (lately a factor at New Caftle told ye Court & Jury y^t the were not to ftand upon fuch Niceties y^t by Mackay's Coquet (w^{ch} m^r Layfield fd in Court was good to ye beft of his knowledge) itt plainly appear'd y^r Maj^{ts} Duties upon thofe goods were pd & y^t was all required in y^e Act of trade &c: the Court ordered ye Coquet fhould be delivered to ye Jury w^{ch} they had & in a fhort time brought in their verdict for ye Def^t I preferr'd an Inform^t. ag^t W^m Makay (pretendend M^r only of ye Ship Providence Jn^o Carr a fcotchman Chief Mate was ye true M^r ye Other was aboard to Colour ye fraud) upon ye 14th of ye late K. Charles for loading goods aboard before his fhip was entred outwards but when y^t Caufe was to be tryed I found ye fame Jury who Cleared ye fhip was appointed alfo to try ye Inform^t. ag^t Makay I then forbore to have any further bufinefs wth y^t Court I defired m^r Guin ye Attorney gen^l. wth whom I had left 17 plan^{ta} bonds to be put in fuite to forbear profecuting them till further orders from Eng^{ld} ye Clearing Meeches & Macay's fhips in fo apparent frauds has more then ever Encouraged ye Interlopers; I found m^r Blackftone in all thefe matters (tho not of ye Court) a great ftickler for ye fcotchmē fo were Coth Brown one of ye Councill born att Glascoe wth King ye Navall Officer they
are

are all of them great traders & Chief Supporters of ye Scotch trade. Some have entred & Cleard wth m^r Blackstone & were dispatcht early this Spring he told me upon my leaving St. Maries he Could not give me any Acc^t of w^t money is remaining in his hands due to their Maj^{ts} besides ye Arrears of larg fum̄s due when m^r Mein surveyed these planta^t ye Gov^r was pleased to say m^r Blackston's whole time (the gen^l Assembly then sitting) was taken up in their Maj^{ts} affaires & y^t at my next coming to S^t Maries both his & m^r Plater's Acc^{ts} should be all ready for mee if not sent to me at James Town before ye fleet sayld w^{ch} was all I Could obtaine then. M^r Layfield Collec^{tr} of some part on ye eastern shore sends yo^r Hon^{rs} a list of ships entred and Cleard wth him this year he could not make up his Acc^{ts} of money due upon ye 1 penny p^r pound because Veffells from New Eng^{ld} w^{ch} loaded some tob^b were but newly arriv'd.

I intend (God willing) so soon as ye fleet is Sayld to take S^t Mary's in my Journey to New York & Survey all m^r Blackstones books & pap^{rs} & also m^r Platers having first surveyed ye Officers Acc^{ts} & books in virginia, I think m^r Layfield intends honestly tho he knows little of ye Custom house businefs: I have left wth him Methods of entring & Clearing veffells in his books & believe he will observe them.

Some M^{rs} of Ships & Others upon my Arrivall into these planta^t inform'd me their Trade was destroyed by Carrying Tob^b overland from ye eastern shore of Maryld to delaware & likewise by carrying great Quantitys of Dutch and Scotch Goods from thence to severall parts in Maryld, as Chester River Elke River &c: & y^t there were veffells in Delaware, w^{ch} had lately imported Scotch Goods & loading
Tob^b^o

Tob^o for Scotland directly; I thereupon ye 4th of June left S^t Maries (having no encouragm^t to stay longer there) & on ye 8th following got to ye horekill; lying on ye southern side & nigh ye Entry of delaware bay, where Nehemiah Field was deputy to m^r Walliam Collect^r of ye Customs in Pensilvania I examined his papers & found ye Brigantine Rose of London Peter Terlony M^r had entred his Brig^t wth him producing a false Certif^e & Coquet both of them of ye 4th of Augst 1691 from Bewmorris thence I went to New Castle & not finding m^r Walliam att home I went ye 11th to Philadelphia & discours[d] m^r Markham Gov^r under m^r Penn of ye 3 lower Countys of Pensilvan[ia] adjoyning to Maryld to be inform'd how their Maj^{ties} Officers had behaved themselves in their stations I found by him that thro y^e Ignorance & remissness of m^r Walliam Collect^r & Field his deputy att ye Horekill y^t severall Vessels directly from Scotland had imported great Quantitys of Scotch goods to ye damage of ye Merc^{ts} of y^t province who traded for Eng^{ld} y^t A Ship from Holland Called y^e flushe (whereof Arnaldos Le grange (sometimes of Maryld was Merc^t) y^e Cap^t was a dutch man & had a letter of Mart he Came into Delaware in Apr^l 1691 & p^rtending want of wood & water was by ye Justices of ye Peace permitted to supply his necessity he lay along time att an Anchoridge in 12 miles of Newcastle and disposed in y^t time of his Wine & holland goods & made up his loading wth Furrs & Tob^o: m^r Markham referd mee to some persons att New Castle to bee perticularly informd thereof I returned thither ye 13th & examin'd m^r Walliams books & papers & found them in Confusion he is becom sottish wth drinking he makes use of whom he can get to do ye bufiness of ye Office he keeps
an

an Ordinary & has a great trade by M^{rs} of vessells & Mer^{cts} resorting to his house he Cleard Peter Terlony M^r of ye Brigantine from Scotland ye 19th of May loaden wth Tob^o for Eng^{ld} upon a Coppy of his Certif^{te} signed by field his deputy after w^{ch} Terlony took on board 7 hds of Tob^o more at ye horekill & field said he had Walliam's Permissi^{on} to doe itt Terlony had notice of my coming from Maryld & Sayld but 4 dayes before I came first to ye horekill Tho^s Meech M^r of ye Ship W^m & Mary seized & tryed lately in Virginia was Owner of y^t Brigantine & ye Mer^t y^t shipt ye goods aboard her.

Peter Hunkin M^r of ye Ketch Georg of Piscataqua in New Eng^{ld} Geo: Geofries a Scotchman Merc^t & owner of ye Ketch was permitted to enter & trade upon producing to m^r Walliams a forgd Certificate from white Haven dated ye 10th day of Augst 1691 & had on board 75 hds of Tob^o & 9600 in bulk m^r Walliams would not shew me Hunkin's Coquet he Sayld some time before my arrivall but Jeffrys stayd to get in his debts he dieted & lodg'd att m^r Walliams house I found no entry of ye ship flushing they unloaded wine & goods out of her to ye value of 300^{lb} bought by m^r Cann a Merc^t & landed them at New Castle Openly & m^r Walliams took no notice of itt he by his paper of ye 13th of this Instant June under his hand acknowledged y^t he bought one pipe of Madera wine in June 1691 out of ye flushing & in July fol^t, bought a piece of linnen & stayd 20 houres aboard to see if they traded for Tob^o I demanded w^t money he had paid to their Maj^{ty}s Receiv^r gen^{ll} & what was remaining in his hands due to their Maj^{ts} upon ye duty of y^e 1^d p^{lb} he Answered he had sent a great deal of
Mony

Mony but could not rememb^r ye time when nor ye sum nor what was remaining but he would get somebody to assist him. I found in his books but one Entry made of tob^b^o. Carried to other places then to Eng^l^d &c that was by Joseph Bryar M^r of ye ship Providence of Road Island for 12 hds att 4200^{lb} to Barbad^s Apr^{ll} 19th 1689 he said he had entry's of more Tob^b^o shipt for other Planta^t. but that was in loose papers which he could not then find but would in a little time get them altogether I intend in my way to New York to stay at New Castle till I have settled & perfected all his Acc^{ts}. I find no security given by him in ye Secret^s Office but (as he told me) he had given a bond to m^r Mein whereupon not finding him tollerably Capable to manage that office . I did wth ye Advise & concurrence of m^r Markham ye Gov^r suspend m^r Walliams & Field his Deputy at ye horekill, & having entrusted ye Collection & care of their Ma^{ts} Custom house affaires in y^t province to m^r W^m Clarke an vnderstanding person of A good Estate he lives at ye horekill & is personally Known to S^r Edm^d Andros & L^t Gov^r Nicholson if yo^r Hon^{rs} please to send him a deputa^t: to be Collect^r &c of west Jerse pensilvan^a & territories & dependences there to belonging he having already taken y^e Oath & given 500^{lb} security in ye Secret^s Office at New Castle I am well assured ye trade of y^t place is secured & a stop put to ye people of Maryld from running their Tob^b^o to delaware. the gen^l Assembly of Maryld amongst other supply's rais'd for support of their New Gov^r have granted him 40^s upon every Vessel trading in y^t province & he to pay ye Navall Officers I hear he has Continued Maj^r King to bee ye Navall Officer in So^merfet Co^{ty} on ye eastern shore A place
pestred

peftred wth Scotch & Irifh about 200 families have within ye 2 years arrived from Ireland & fetled in y^t Co^{ty} befides fome hundred of family's there before. they have fet up a linnen Manufacture Encouraged thereto by Co^{ll} Brown a fcotchman one of ye Councill & by Maj^r King & other principall perfons upon ye place who fupport ye Interlopers & buy up all their Loading upon their firft arrivall & govern ye whole trade on ye Eastern fhore fo y^t whereas 7 or 8 good fhips from Eng^{ld} did yearly trade & load ye Tob^b^o of y^t Co^{ty} I find y^t in thefe 3 years laft paft there has not been above 5 fhips trading legally in all thofe Rivers & nigh 30 Sayle of Scotch Irifh & New Eng^{ld} Men. I humbly inclofe to yo^r Hon^{rs} A forg'd Certif^{te} (N^o 4) produced to Maj^r King by W^m Hall of Bofton allowed of by m^r Layfield he clear'd his fhip having 110 hds aboard ye 7th of Apr^{ll} 1689 & went to Scotland fince w^{ch} time to ye 25th of May 1692 above 1644 hds has been fhipt off by Interlopers out of y^t one Co^{ty} befides what Makay & Crookfhanks are now loading feveral Illegall traders are defigned this Winter to come to Som^rfet Co^{ty} & Potomoke River their loadings of Tob^b^o being already agreed for, above 20 Scotch Irifh & New Eng^{ld} Veffells within thefe 8 months have fayld out of ye Capes with their loading of tob^b^o for Scotland & Holland & ye man of warr had not discover'd one of thē ye Brigantine Adventure of Lond^d-derry 20 Tons Tho^s Fifher M^r loaded 60 hds of tob^b^o in Annameffeck in fom^rfet County ye M^r & all his Saylers were Scotch men borne who upon Notice y^t Meech's fhip (feiz'd by L^t Gov^r Nicholfons Order was to be try'd att James Town) Saild down ye bay about ye end of Apr^{ll} laft when ye frigot & y^e Yatch were Crufig in
in

in ye bay & ye 20th Instant Henry Smith came to som^rset Co^y wth goods from Scotland & not taken Notice of by any of ye frig^{ts} I have made ye more hast from pensilvania to this place in hopes to get Makays & Crookshanks Veffells feiz'd by ye frigot before they get clear of ye bay & to y^t end upon my first arrivall there wrote a letter to Cap^t Townsend ye Com^{andore} a Coppy whereof (N^o 5) I here inclose desiring him y^t one of ye frigots under his care may be directed to look out & feize them & also to stop Sam^l Wilson a Scotchman M^r of a veffell of Maryld & Jn^o Laird of Lond:derry from white haven till I can get them arrested upon forfeiture of their Bonds of 1000^{lb} w^{ch} I have by mee also Rob^t Gofs already under an arrest upon breach of his bond for ye same value for as Matters are managed att p^rsent I can doe little good wth them in Maryld but Co^l Copley told mee it shall be otherwise when he is setled in ye Govern^t Vpon my Returne from New Eng^{ld} w^{ch} I hope will be about ye end of Sept^r next I intend to lye aboard ye man of warr in ye winter & endeavour to speak wth all veffells bound out & into ye Capes for ye Interlopers come then in & dispose of their Cargoes & load their veffells wth Tob^b^o & are gone to sea before ye Ships arrive from Eng^{ld} Gov^r Copley has made M^r Plater Collect^r of ye Customs att petuxent River to be his Navall Officer also he lives wth his family above 50 miles from ye Vsual place of Ent[ry] & Clearing veffells trading in y^t district & for y^t reason not fitt to manage either of those Offices besides ye Inclosed (N^o 6) being a Coppy of A paper p^rsentend by Cap^t Twitt (M^r of their Maj^{ts} frigot ye Henry) to L^t Gov^r Nicholson Charges him wth Mismanagem^t but not having seen itt before I will make a strict Enquiry at my returne to

S^t

S^t Maries & Inform yo^r Hon^{rs} accordingly It has been ye practice of ye form^r Gov^r in Virgin^a to appoint A Member of ye Councill to be Navall Officer where Needfull to Collect ye Impost of 2^s p hdd & port duty's &c : fo y^t Scotch men & Others giving bond not to depart till they have accounted & paid thofe dutys to ye Officer have been admitted to enter & trade without any regard had to ye Quallifica^{ts} of ye Ship M^r Saylers or loading &c as is directed in ye Act made for encouragm^t of trade & ye appointing ye same person to be ye Coll^r Survey^r &c. of ye Customs it gives an Opportunity for connivance att frauds in ye remoter parts of ye Province as has been lately discovered in ye Case of Meech a Scotch man & Others whereas if thofe Offices were managed by different persons as in Barbado^s Jamaica &c : as its most necessary in thofe Tobb^o Planta^{ts} ye one would be a check upon ye Other, & frauds ye Easier detected Co^{ll} Cole Coll^r of ye Lower part of James River, seeing L^t Gov^r Nicholson had turnd out Co^{ll} Cuftis Coll^r att Accomack for great miscarriages in his Office not having dischargd y^t trust as he ought to have done petitioned to be dismist from y^t and all other publick places w^{ch} was granted, & Co^{ll} John Lear one of ye Councill appointed by ye Councill to succeed him & they write to yo^r Hon^{rs} for a deputation for him he is not so well quallified for y^t Office w^{ch} requires so great diligence & Circumspection, for y^t deftrict lyes Nigh ye entry of ye Capes. there are many bays & Creeks in it where Scotch & N : England men frequent in regard they can there unload load & soon run out to sea in a little time undiscovered as has been formerly practised & will be now more then ever because Co^{ll} Cuftis (who received all forts (even pyrates) if they paid him his unreasonable

sonable fees is turn'd out of his Office Co^{ll} Edw^d Hill is made Coll^r of ye upper part of James River in ye place of Co^{ll} page deceas't y^t Lyes very far up in ye Country & London^{rs} & Bristoll men only load y^r Co^{ll} Edw^d Jennings is Continued att y^{ork} River & Esq^r Ralph Wormly att Rappahannock w^{ch} 2 districts Interlopers do not frequent . but Potomoke River where Co^{ll} Christp^r Wormley is Cott^r ought to be better lookt to for besides his Other incapacities he lives above 50 miles off from his business he has indeed appointed Cott^r Griffen his deputy who lives by ye River side & fees Vessels goe up & down only: he enters in a book ye names of ye M^{rs} & ye Ship, & keeps an Acc^t of ye fees of ye Office for Entries bonds Certif^{tes} &c. & because he received ye duty of ye 2^s p^r h^{hd} I can by his book tell how many hds ye M^r swears he has aboard & no Other way's Co^{ll} Wormley goes once or twice a year to reacon & receive his Share of ye fees but whence ye Vessell comes ye Numb^r & quallity of ye men her loading or whither bound &c: not one word of itt all ye Coll^{rs} are members of ye Councill not one of them has deputed under officers under hand & seale wth power to goe aboard & strictly to examine whither their loding agree wth their Coquet & discover w^t Tob^b^o they take aboard Potomock River is a place where ye Scotch & N: England men find great Incouragm^t & ought to be very narrowly look't after A diligent active person on ye Southern part of y^t River will be a Check upon m^r Blackstone who has for many years given M^{rs} from all places a great Latitude in trade. Now to ye end that ye trade may be better secured in ye severall Rivers of Potomock Petuxent & ye County of Som^rset I humbly recomēd to
yo^r

yo^r Hon^{rs}. Consideratio & propofe y^t three diligent active perfons well acquainted wth Custom houfe bufinefs appointed to be Coll^{rs} & Survey^{rs} &c: of their Ma^{ts} Customs in ye fd Rivers & fent hither from Eng^{ld} in like Manner as yo^r Hon^{rs} depute all yo^r Officers to all their Ma^{ts} planta^{tis} when Needfull ye one half of ye f^d pth duly Collected wth ye fees eftablifhed here will be a good Maintainance for them I further humbly offer y^t ye Office of Comptroler of ye Customs in thefe 2 Provinces as now managed does no way Contribute to ye fecuring of trade: M^r Philip Lightfoot ye Comptroler in Virgin^a a very good man he only ftates fuch Acc^{ts} as ye Coll^{rs} of ye Customs bring him & fees them fweare to them before ye Gov^r once a year befides he lives towards ye upper part of James River & thereby uncapable of taking care of ye trade of this Contrey I therefore humbly recomēd Cap^t Sam^l Ravenscroft an Inhabitant in Virgin^a an vnderftanding & active man (perfonally known to S^r Edm^d Androfs & to L^t Gov^r Nicholfon) to be by yo^r Hon^{rs} Deputation appointed to that Office, & as for m^r Layfield who has an old deputa^t from ye Custom houfe to be Comptroler & Survey^r of ye Customs in Maryld he lives nigh ye head of Pokemoke river quite out of ye way & has bufinefs enough to mind in his Office of Coll^r if yo^r Hon^{rs} please to continue him in itt for I know no man thereabouts fitt to be entrusted in y^t place I therefore humbly offer y^t Co^{ll} Charles Scarbrowe whom L^t Gov^r Nicholfon has recomēded to yo^r Hon^{rs} to fucceed Co^{ll} Cuftis in ye Office of Coll^r of ye Customs in Accomack on ye Eastern fhore &c: may have yo^r Hon^{rs} Deput^t: alfo to be Comptroler of ye Customs of Maryld his houfe ftands open to ye bay on ye eastern Shore & no Veffell can

Saile

Saile to ye Co^{ty} of Somerfet but passēs by him he is well acquainted wth all ye Intreagues of Interlopers he inform'd mee att my first arrivall at James town that Makay & Crookshanks were arrived in Som^rfet Co^{ty} from Scotland & y^t Hen : Smiths Vessel arrived from thence ye 20th Instant he run aground not far from ye Co^{ll}'s Land hee would have seiz'd him if he had power these 2 Officers will be of great Use & be a Check upon ye Coll^{rs} all assistance is too little to stem ye Current of ye Illegall trade w^{ch} by ye Ignorance of some & ye Countenance of Others Officers has been greatly encouraged In my letters to yo^r Hon^{rs} of ye 21st of Apr^l past finding ye partiality in ye Court at James town in ye tryall of Meeches Vessel they not being willing or not able to discover his false Certific^{ts} & Coquet (w^{ch} ye L^t Gov^r sends to yo^r Hon^{rs} by this shipping) I therein humbly proposēd ye Necessity of having a Court of Exchequer erected in this Province wth an able Judge to try all Causes relating to ye Crown & since I have in ye tryall of Macay's ship att S^t Maries experienced ye Inclinations of ye Court & Jury there to do their Ma^{ts} no Justice ag^t Interlopers I am confirmed there is great reason for having ye like Court erected there also ye same Judg to sitt in ye Court in both Provinces when Needfull or else itt will be to no purpose to be att trouble & Charge to seize & try Irregular Traders nor to put any of ye forfeited bonds in suit, till a Court be established & certain Rules & Methods to direct ye Judg & Jury from w^{ch} they are not to deviat about false certif^{ts} & Coquets many of ye bonds I left wth ye Attorney gen^l att S^t Maries & some of those in my Custody have forgd Certif^{tes} to discharge them so y^t there is ye same discouragm^t in ye p^{ro}ceed-
ing

ing ag^t securities as ag^t Veffels illegally trading. att Glascoe & other places in scotland they have falſe ſeales of ye Cuſtom houſes of whitehaven Bewmorris &c: & by ſome meanes procure blank Certif^{ts} ſome of them are ſo exactly fill'd up & yo^r Hon^{rs} hands indifferently Counterfeited y^t they paſs wth all ye Coll^{rs} where ye Interlopers frequent for good & by theſe frauds wth ye Countenance of Scotch traders & little factors keeping Stores in private houſes ye Irregular Trade has for theſe many years been carried on. Now to ye end no M^{rs} trading in theſe planta^{ts} may unload & trade in what obſcure place they pleaſe every one running into a ſeverall Creek or bay ſo y^t 'tis an endleſs work for ye moſt diligent officer to take Notice of ye Goods they import or to know what quan^t: of Tob^o: they take aboard all ye diſcoueries or Satisfaction ye Coll^{rs} now have y^t ye M^{rs} have traded Legally depends only upon their Oathes Its therefore humbly p^opoſed y^t their Ma^{ty} Order in Councill be ſent to ye Sev^l Gov^{rs} of Virg^a & Mary^{ld} to appoint 2 or 3 places in every trading River (as they ſhall judge moſt proper) where all veſſells ſhall be Olidged [ſic] to come to an Anchor & ther unload & take in their loading & not elſewhere under a penalty by w^{ch} means ye Officers & their reſpective deputies can attend & wth little trouble diſcharge their duties this (wth ye diligence of able officers in every river will certainly prevent all interlopers when regularly putt in pra^ctiſe I have thought it my duty upon Notice of many Scotch veſſells being up & down in ye ſeverall planta^{ts} to endeavour what I Could to diſturb them att leaſt in their trade (finding finding ye Officers to cover & p^ote^ct them) & put them to all ye charge & trouble I could w^{ch} I have Spared no Coſt nor

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paines

paines to effect I am not out of hopes of meeting Macay & Crookshanks in ye Bay when they leave Maryld & will be wanting in Nothing to observe yo^r Hon^{rs} Co^mands of w^{ch} yo^r Hon^{rs} shall upon all occasions have a faithfull Acc^t from him who is

Yo^r Hon^{rs} most Humble and
most obedient Serv^t

Mr Muschamp Collect^r of ye
Customs at Carolina has been at
James town & rece^d yo^r Hon^{rs}
Deputa^t: w^{ch} I left wth L^t Coll^l
Nicholson to deliv^r to him in
my absence I will (god willing)
visite y^t Colony when ye weather
growes temperate.

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a 27 June 1692
Copy of Mr Randolph
Letter to the Commf^s
of the Customes.
Rec^d 6 Sept. 1692

B. D.

P. 34

Coppy to ye Comiffo^{rs} of
ye Customs

CIX.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE MARYLAND GOVERNMENT.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

ffrom y^e Balnio in — James Town: June 28: 92:

S^r

Since mine of y^e 21: of Aprill to you vnder L^t Gon^r Nich-
 olsons Couer. & duplicate of the same date by Cap^t Scott of
 Bristoll: I haue made a curfory visite as farr as Phyladelphia.
 & hearing the Gen^l Assembly of Maryland was to fitt at S^t
 Maryes: y^e 10th of May, I made my visite to Coll Copley.
 he gaue me a faint reception, he allowed my deputation from
 y^e Custome house, but speaks very coldly of y^s. he enter-
 taind me with grave discourse but nothing to ye purpose
 but advised me to write to you: that he would serue you.
 Once in his drink he said you were a Jacobite. & a great
 enemy to their present Ma^{ties}. That y^r Commission of Audi-
 tor ought to be renewed vpon their Ma^{tis} coming to ye
 Crown. I told him my deputation was allowed of & signd
 by ye Lords of the Treasury. & prestd him that it might be
 registred, but refused saying it was not a proper tyme, I dis-
 coursd him about ye Treasvrers & receiuers of y^e publick
 money of y^e Province, whether he found any of itt at ye tyme
 of his arrivall, he told me he was especially commanded to
 take care of it & giue their Ma^{tis} an Account & was very
 vnwilling to do anything about y^e Deputation till he had
 done his busines with the Assembly.

the Cheife Toolles he works with are Blackstone now
 Colonell; who before he gott to be Collector of Customs was

a poor Atturney not worth a Hog^d of tobacco : nor now if he be forcd to pay ye great arreares due from him to their Ma^{ties} vpon y^e duty of 1 : penny p pound. he is a starchd formall fellow as great a knave but not so cunning as M^r Dudley. he is next in Councill to y^e Gon^r & carryes a great stroak amongst those fylly animalls the Councill : with their advife he has permitted 22 ships to sayle without convoy . most of them from y^e Out ports ; came out without Licence from y^e Lords of ye Committee : they did not passe without a decent acknowledgm^t to his Excell :

his second Jacall is Mr Plater the Collee^ter of Patuxent Riuer. his busines has been to plye for wine Brandee for the Gon^r amongst the ships : he has presented the Gon^r with a horse & has a young wife at his Excell' : seruice. The next is a dull welch Lawyer y^e Atturney . Gen^{ll} ⁴⁰⁵ made a freeman of S^t Maryes . then chofen one of the Burgeffes of that Corporation. he takes Entrys of retaining fees of one Hogg^d of Tobacco to be paid yearely by ye contentious Client . to appeare for him in all Courts Contra omnes : for so I saw it entred in his Alminach : he like the M^r of Ceremonyes directs the Councill & Asssembly . how they are to behaue themselues towards towards [*sic*] their Gon^r

The next (but not the last) is Harpam . his setter ; he scoures about, I heard he was at Phyladelphia . with Casparus Harman ⁴⁰⁶ (a new dubd' Colonell : but formerly an ill man)

⁴⁰⁵ This is not Chilton, who was a Virginian official, but Gwynn, mentioned *post* (Letter CXVII.), of whom nothing further is known from these letters.

⁴⁰⁶ For Casparus Harman of Bohemia,

see the remarkable account of Cuthbert Potter's journey from Virginia to New England (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1690, no. 1164 VII.).

man) for Biscott & other necessaryes for his Excell: for an acknowledgm^t of the favour of his new honour: this Harpam serues (as ye fryar mendicants boy) to receiue all . & is to be no small Officer in the Gom^t the Gon^t slaues & toiles for Blackstone & Plater . whenever I would enter vpon busines with them, or examine their books & accounts . so that I could do nothing whilst the Assembly sate . but must make another Journey so soon as ye fleet is sayld . & then I will offer to haue your Deputation registered. So soon as I heard he was come to S^t Maryes . I wrote him a letter by Harpam his Messenger with all Duty & respect & haue not been wanting to him at S^t Maryes. the Revennue of that Gom^t is to be managed by him & to be at his dispose, in their New Laws No person appointed to be Receiuer Gen^l or Treasurer but himselfe . & all money to be paid by his Order.

the Good methode to obtain this, was managed by ye great care & industry of Mr Chifelden⁴⁰⁷ the Speaker: with the Attorney Gen^l & some others of their Caball . who pvrge the house of all members not for their turn . tho' chosen by ye far greater part of the Electors: as being enemyes to their present Gon^{rs} The Merc^{ts} of London gaue their Correspondents in Maryland an Account of the ill circumstances of their Gon^t & advised them to be good husbands of their Countryes money : Thus (& for no other reason) sending home men (not papists) of good estates . ord-
ring

⁴⁰⁷ Kenelm Chifeldyn was one of the revolutionaries, and appeared against Lord Baltimore before the Lords in 1690 (*Calendar of State Papers, Amer-*

ica and West Indies, 1690, nos. 1195, 1267). He was successful in his representations, which resulted in the appointment of Copley as Governor.

ring new writts⁴⁰⁸ for electing others to serue in their Rooms. During their absence & before New ones could come the house proceeded to make their Laws which were all compleated before the New Burgeffes — Burgeffes [*sic*] arrived. As to the Members of ye Councill you may guesse at their qualifications . by the Agents they sent to Eng^d of whom Coll Georg Robotham (a halfe faced Quaker) M^r Tench⁴⁰⁹ an Irish Merc^t & Coll Jolls⁴¹⁰ a Surgeon are tolerable . the Rest are such a contemptable crew as Coll Sawyer living on y^e Eastern shore, presented his service to his Excell. & sent him word he would waite vpon him when he kept better company. Butt those silly Animalls charmd with the tedious
impertin^t

⁴⁰⁸ Only one new writ (for Cecil County) is mentioned in the minutes of the Assembly (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1692, no. 2225).

⁴⁰⁹ Thomas Tench appears continually in the Maryland records of the time, generally opposed to Randolph as concerned with illegal trading) *Maryland Archives*, Vol. XX. pp. 42, 64). But in 1694 (Vol. XX, pp. 172, 512) Tench was appointed naval officer on Randolph's recommendation. He was executor to Copley, and had great trouble with the Treasury in arranging Copley's liabilities to the Government (*Treasury Papers*, Vol. XXX. no. 47. p. 402. Nov. 16, 1694, etc.).

⁴¹⁰ Henry Jolls, or Jowles, was afterwards accused by Copley of being a tool of Randolph and Sir Thomas Lawrence (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1692, no. 2706). "Even soe farr May it please your Exps hath the malignancy of his disposition had predominancy over him, as to corrupt one of their Maj^{ties} Councill vis. Coll. Henry

Jowles to acquitt and desert the Honor of his Post, and accept under him the place & Office of a County Court Ck^k: to the greate dishonor of his former Commission & dissatisfaction of the rest of the rest [*sic*] of his Brethren, and the wonder of y^e whole Countrey, but wee must of necessity conclude there is some other private & secret designe, and intreague to be managed and carried on by them, and their disaffected pty to the prejudice of the Govern^{mt} and their Maj^{ties} Service: For which reason (according to the power and authority given the Governor given the Governor [*sic*] in his Instructions) Wee thought fitt to dismiis the s^d Coll. Jowles from his place in Councill and others his Military and civil Offices & Commands in the County where he lives." He had been one of the revolutionaries, but had done good service in keeping the Indians quiet at the "heads of the riuers." (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1689, no. 56.) A part of Copley's letter (1692, no. 2706) is printed *supra*, Vol. V. p. 96.

impertin^t Haranges the Gon^r made them, in praise of his own meritt parts & interest at court . were all his humble servants . (Jolls excepted who would do nothing till often melowed wth wine & a present of 40000^{lb} of tobacco) & now Elevated with their New Hon^r & 30^{lb} a yeare a peece to support it they strutt it like the New Beadles of S^t Martins parish: Blackstones character you have already. Coll David Brown a Scotch pedler born at Glascow . for some service done is now preferrd . Greenberry . a Highwayman in Eng^d Coates a Wheelwright . & Hutchins a broaken London carpenter: Addison a Newcastle factor : ⁴¹¹ the rest Idem quod dicere nolo. I saw better men sent back by the house of Burgeffes then most of y^e Councill.

Now matters sett thus in tune vpon ye 10th of May his Excellence attended by ye Councill went from his apartment (a nasty stinking Ordinary formerly the house of Mr Calvert Calvert [*sic*] the Chancellor) & ye Burgeffes hauing notice of his being at ye other house . he did bespeake them in manner & form following (as paper N^o 1 with the titles of their Laws, the happy effects wrought vpon y^e Credulous ffopps) the Attorney Gen^l moved that the thanks of the house should be returnd to his Excell. for his gracious speech . which was accordingly orderd. It 's necessary that they be commanded to fend home the Journalls of the Gon^r & Councill, the Gen^l Affsembly . & of the house of Deputyes .
&

⁴¹¹ With the exception of Greenberry, who was afterwards President of Maryland *ad interim* until Andros took over the government after Copley's death, the other persons mentioned in this letter are of no great importance. John

Bannister was one of the original governors of William and Mary College. William Lowndes was Secretary to the Treasury, and was a man of some eminence. See Macaulay's *History of England (Cabinet Edition)*, Vol. IV. p. 122.

& in regard that S^r Thomas Laurance is not yet arriued. whom they Cutt out of all his profitts. that some person be appointed to examine & compare them with their Originalls. I now see (as Coll Copley has collated the laws). that there is little reason for registering my Deputation. But in regard I see onely the titles. When you receive them you may discover more. but when that will be I heare not. the 14^d p Tunn vpon all vessells trading in Maryland is giuen to their Ma^{ties} but at their dispose. out of which 350^{lb} yearly to the Council to keep them firm to y^e Gon^{rs} interest. the 40^s to be paid by y^e Masters for all ships trading there is given to ye Gon^r & he is to pay his Navall Officers out of it, he makes Major King a Scotch Irish Man to be Navall Officer in Summerfett County. where now Scotch vessells trade cheifely. he will execute that Office & thank him too. M^r Plater Collector at Patuxent is y^e Second, the Gon^r vpholding him in getting extravagant fees of the M^{rs} will excuse his paying Plater anything. & I do not question but vpright Nehemiah Blackstone is the Third. he is vsed to squeeze what he pleases out of the Masters, & will by no meanes offer to take one penny from his Excell: before the tyme & since the Revolution. he & other Collectors allowed a latitude in Trade. but now they hope to do it cum privilegio. In all the West India plantations the Navall Officer is a distinct person from the Collector. he ought to be an honest man, well acquainted with Custome house busines. & able to discover false Coquetts & Certificates. vpon his diligence the Security of the tobacco trade in those plantations does cheifely depend. & tho' by ye 15th of the late King Charls. M^{rs} of vessells are directed in 24 hours after their arrivall to deliver to y^e Gon^r
or

or such other Officer as shall be by him appointed . etc : yet its necessary that some fitt person be by a letter from y^e Lords of ye Committee for trade to Colo: Copley to be Navall officer of Maryland . & paid out of the 40^s. I know no person but his own Creatures in whom he will confide : the Navall Officer will be a check vpon the other Custome house officers : now to be a member of Councill both here & in Maryland qualifies them for places Right or wrong . a Colonell a Navall Officer, Collector of y^e Customs Receiuer of ye 2^d p Hog^d powder money port duties Etc : busines enough if well followed to employ 3 : or 4 men in euery Trading River : but few discharg one Office as they ought to doe :

The Collectors of the Customs in virginia especially like M^{rs} in Chancery fitt at home , M^{rs} of vessells outward or Inward bound sweare anything to the best of their knowledge pay their ffees & are cleerd . without an Officer seeing them (or their vessell :) at any other Tyme : In Maryland the Officers plye like Watermen : Next Owers : for he that vses the M^{rs} best has most busines : One Jeffreys of Boston intending to load Tobacco in virgin[nia] askd y^e Officer what he must give him a Hog^d he told him one penny p pound. he would not load here saying he could do it in Maryland vpon better terms.

Besides ye 240000^{lb} of tobacco Given to y^e Gon^r M^r Chifelden & Coll Jolly . there is (as I am informd) an old fragment of 1300000^{lb} yet behind & vnpaid. Cap^t Code is Now arriued he must be presented with 100000^{lb} & Major King who attended the Agents as farr as Plymouth . is to be considered. these are the New Methods to encrease their Ma^{ties} Revenue

Revennue vpon tobacco: the Inhabitants murmur. Some talke of leaving off planting. the Scotch Irish haue sett vp a linnen Manufacture in Summesett County the cheife in Authority being of that nation:

L^t Gon^r Nicholson hearing of disturbance at y^e heads of Rapahannack & Patomeck Rivers went thither. & in his Toure made Coll. Copley a visite. he was receiued with Complement & a larg apology for want of better accomodation. the Members of the Councill & the house of Burgeffes waited vpon him at his lodgings & gaue him their hearty thanks for his care of them now & in the tyme of their Revolution. the next day he entertaind y^e Gon^r Councill & Burgeffes with a very plentifull breakfast (& all well pleased but ye Gon^r & M^r Blackstone) at my house in S^t Maryes. & now that I mention my house, it was thus. at my first arrivall at S^t Maryes I had a lodging at y^e Gon^{rs} but after I visited M^r Blackstone & entertaind him with melancholy discourse of Scotchmen & New Eng^d men being permitted by him to load tobacco vpon slender security. & what was more affrighting to him. to enquire what money was remaining in his hands due to their Ma^{ties} vpon the duty of y^e penny p pound. he told me he could not then giue an account, the Gon^r to oblige him & many of the Councill and Burgeffes (who could not be satisfied to see me entertaind by ye Gon^r) left me to lodge where I could. Blackstone hauing taken possession of my Chamber. I went to an old vninhabited house which once had Glasse windows without bed pillow or any fort of necessaries. faue onely 2 bedstedes with facking bottoms not worth carriing away there I lodgd, till the house of Burgeffes would lett me go away: the Gon^r ordred

ordred a Conftable to preffe me a Boat to go to the Eaft-ern shoare. they hearing I was intended to feize a Scotch fhip at Delaware, would not lett him do it. fo I was delayed. till vpon notice fent beforehand of my coming our Scotch-man fayld away from thence loaden with tobacco 4 dayes before I could gett to y^e Howkill

At my return heither I found Col: Cuftis moft defervedly turnd out of all publick offices: & Col. Cole hauing done many ill things, efpecially in not condemning a Scotch fhip: in Aprill Court laft when there was the cleereft Evidence againft her. has petitioned [*ſic*] to lay down all his Offices: there is great want of able Officers to be ſent heither as are to the plantations by y^e Comm^{rs} of the Customs: there is no depending vpon the men of warr. Cap^t ffinch Commander of the Henry Prize: he & his fhip are more fitt to be Guards at Chatham then ſent heither to ſecure the trade the Alburrow Ketch now at New York. fayles like a dung boat: the lords of the Admiralty by ſending ſuch fhips putt their Mat^{ies} to a great charg: ffinch hauing feized one of thoſe many Interlopers which haue gone in & out of the Capes in thoſe 8 months laft paſt. I may travell myſelfe to death & to no purpoſe till thoſe things be duely regulated: S^r Since there are now 3 vacancies in the Councill of Virginia I deſire I may be appointed One there. & of Maryland alſo: Robotham is now going to England S^r Thomas Laurance is not arriued. if I be made One of the Councill there I ſhall be in a condition to inform of all things beſides if the ſalary of 30^{lb} a yeare be confirmd' to them of Maryland it will add to ſupport me in my extraordinary charg of traveling. Brown the Scotch pedler & a great promoter of the
Linnen

Linnen Manufacture ought to be turnd out of the Councill: and also John Addifon a New Castle ffaCTOR & one of the Judges for faying at y^e Tryall of a Scotch fhip at S^t Maryes. that they ought not to obferue the nicetyes of the Acts of Trade. vnleffe fome be made examples It's not to be expected their Ma^{ties} fhall obtain Iuftice againft Interlopers. —

S^t the Office of Generall Land Surveyor in Virginia is managed by Cap^t Culpeper he liues in England & does nothing for it the adding that to my Commiffion of Surveyor of the Woods would be a great favour to me.

The L^t Gon^r fends you fome walnutt plank vpon the fhip Sarah of Bristoll Iofeph Leech M^r I haue agreed for 10000 ffoot of pine boards from 18: to 24 foot in length: not vnder one foot broad. & inch & halfe thick when fawn: & alfo Walnutt plank. but very fcarce in Virginia: it will be ready next fpring. you muft fpeake to Mr Henley⁴¹² to agree with Bristoll fhips to carry it home. I cannot vndertake that here in regard they will be here vpon extravagant terms. the getting thofe Mafters likely to come heither when others are ftopd by Embargo will oblige them to take your plank aboard vpon very eafy terms: lett the M^{rs} bring letters to me from Mr Henley & I will order their loading to be putt aboard them. Amongft ye 22 fhips which fayld without convoy by Gon^r Copleys order: were many who had not leaue at home: the fuing fome of their Bonds will make others

⁴¹² Robert Henley ftood for Parliamt as a representative of Bristol in 1679, and was actually elected, but the corporation refused to let him fit. They afterwards profecuted him for trading

in the city, he being a "foreigner" (Latimer's *Annals of Bristol in the Seventeenth Century*, p. 391). He was one of the "Commissioners of Transport" for the Government.

others more carefull to observe orders. I haue bespoak some cedar & will make it my busines to gett what I can to adorn y^r House at Durham. M^r Banister is dead . who was to provide all necessaries & curiosities for yr Garden he has M^r Londons directions which are lost with him. I will send you black Walnuts for y^r park if any ships of Bristol [are] here when they are ready . & the same to M^r Lounds : I haue heard of a Copper mine at the Scoull Kill by phyladelphia . but they talke high of it & haue sent for workmen . out of England by what I haue wrote to you & to y^e Comm^{rs} of the Customs who are not to know that I send you Copyes of their letters . you see that it was absolutely necessary for their Ma^{ties} Service . to looke into the trade of those plantations which haue been formally managed these many yeares & their Ma^{ties} haue lost about 20000^{lb} a yeare here & in Maryland for want of good officers. I intend God willing to step to boston . & then spend my whole winter & the next spring here

I find L^t Gon^l Nicholson has been vnjustly dealt with by those very persons to whom he was kind : which vpon perusal of the Councills Journall you will discover. Coll. Cole has acknowledged that he wrote false things home against him & begged his pardon openly . the country knowing it are ready to pull his house down about his ears : I know he will find friends when he comes to England to support him in his vindication, wheither he intends to come vpon the arrivall of a New Gon^l vnlesse he be better taken care of . for he cannot live here vpon 300^{lb} a yeare, in the place where he has spent about twice as much yearely in visiting the frontiers & settling the Militia in the extreamest parts of ye province.

his

his calling vpon the Collectors to be diligent in their duties. & searching after the vast Tracts of lands Engrossed by ye cheife men in the Country together with his obliging the Auditor to something for his fees: has occasioned the dissatisfaction. I am well assured they cannot charg him with any neglect in their Ma^{ties} service.

by what I heare in the Country as I travell. the poeple will sett vp a Manufacture of Linnen & Woolen & neglect tobacco planting if they be press^d he has so managed that you find he has obtaind more vpon ye people for their Ma^{ties} service then any of the former Gon^{rs} & nothing has been proposd for their Ma^{ties} interest or the advantage of his freinds but he has carried his point as you are sensible. from a confidence the people haue that he will offer nothing to his sinister profit or bye ends.

I expect you shall receiue Articles against me from Maryland because I was diligent in prosecuting my seizures. Mather & the New Eng^d agents misrepresented me to those of Maryl^d & some of them haue been so weak as to giue them credit So soon as the fleet is sayld . I will call at S^t Maryes & see in what humour I shall find ye Gon^r I haue done nothing to disoblige him nor will . but he aimes to be the sole Manager of the Countrey & Revennue & till he be better instructed from y^e Lords of the Treasury it will not be otherwise. I giue my humble service to the little M^{rs} to pritty Mifs. to Mr Parry & am S^r

Your obliged humble se^{vt}

ED RANDOLPH.

S^r wee are in very great want for a fetled post office:
Mr Neal ⁴¹³ has onely shamd this country. pray promote
it vpon the best terms you can I am confident all ye Gon^{rs}
will contribute to the charg of first setting it vp.

to Mr Blathwayt

CX.

RANDOLPH'S CHARGE AGAINST A COLLECTOR.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Merandum Boft of arnaldos Delagrange one pipe of wine in
the Month of June 1691 Boft in ye Month of July one
peice of Linnin. at which time I stayed on board twenty
Owers or more on purpofs to discover wheather he did trade
for Tobb^o or aney other Commoidytes but could not discover
aney thing whilest I was there on board wittnes my hand the
13th of June 1692

James Walliam Coll^r

by this it appeares he traded with a forainer

N^o 3

m^r Walliam 1 paper

CXI.

⁴¹³ Thomas Neale was a kind of general patentee for America. He held a patent (17th February, 1692) for all post-offices there; another for ferries; another for wrecks on the coasts of

Bermuda. (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1693, nos. 21, 798, 2280, etc.) For his exceedingly questionable reputation, see Macaulay's *History of England*, Vol. IV. p. 53.

CXI.

RANDOLPH TO THE CUSTOMS: COMPLAINTS OF THE COLLECTORS IN VIRGINIA.

America & West Indies, 637. no. 125.

(Copy of M^r. Randolph's L^re to y^e Com^{rs} of the Customes)
May itt please yo^r. Ho^{rs}.

I humbly inclose to yo^r. Ho^{rs} a Coppy of a Lett^r. sent me from m^r. Chilton⁴¹⁴ their Maj^{ties} Attorney gen^{ll}. of virg^a who was p^rsent att S^t. Maries when I p^rceeded ag^t. Macay for importing ye Manufactu^{rs}. of Scotland into ye planta^t: directly which represents to yo^r. Hon^{rs} ye great partiallity in y^t. Court & Jury; in my larg letter of ye 27th of June past⁴¹⁵ to yo^r. Hon^{rs} I informd yo^r. hon^{rs} y^t. by no means I Could Come at a fight of m^r. Blackstones & m^r. Platers bookes ye former Clear'd Jones & Guin M^{rs}. of two N. England Veffels loaden wth tob^b° & bound for Scotland tho (before ye Gov^r.) I told him I had great Cause to believe they were bound for Scotland: & ye Latter many irregular traders: of w^{ch} with west Country men above 40 Sailed out of ye Capes before ye shippes arrived from London: & since that not long after Gov^r. Copley's arrivall at S^t. Maries nigh as many more have been p^rmitted by ye Gov^r. to Sayle out wth Jn^o & Perigrine Brown M^{rs}. of 2 Ships of Londⁿ. in w^{ch} fleet (as I am now well Inform'd) by W^m. Roberts M^r. of y^e Ship Reserve of Bristoll: that

⁴¹⁴ *Supra*, Vol. V. p. 76.⁴¹⁵ This is the letter of 28th June, printed *supra*.

that Jones Guin & in all to ye Number of 8 or 9 Veffells trading irregularly were p^rmitted to Sayle out wth y^e Brown's tho (before y^t time) Captain Townfend ye Co^mandore had wrote two Letters to ye Gov^r of Maryland y^t he was ordered by ye lords of ye Admiralty to take under his Convoy all ye Mary^{ld} & Virg^a fhipps upon my first coming to James town from Mary^{ld} I wrote to ye Co^mandore to ftop feveral fhips I had juft grounds to fufpect of w^{ch} John Laird of Belfaft who had loaden aboard ye fhip Andrew of Donnecuder 160 tds of tob^b^o & gave bond ye 24th of Mar^{ch} 1689 wth a poor Irishman Not worth 40^s to unliver in Eng^{ld} &c: now finding Laird had p^duced no Certific^{te} of his unlivery of y^t tob^b^o as ye law directs I have here met wth Laird & caufed him to be arrefted at ye fuite of their Maj^{ties} for 1000^{lb}. I have here met wth Rob^t Glanvill M^r of a Pink of Salem in New Eng^{ld} loaden wth tob^b^o & becaufe I knew him formerly to bee an Old Tranfgreffor I wrote to ye Co^mandore to Order his men to unbend all her Sayles & carry them afhore to ye Sheriff untill Glanvill fhould give fuch fecurity as Cott^o Lear Collect^r of ye lower part of James River approve off & alfo to ftop Rob^t Gofs M^r of a Pink bound for white Haven lying in hawkins's hole he being arefted in an action of 1000^{lb} for their Maj^{ties} ufe tho' ye man is not worth 8 fhillings: yet to deterr other M^{rs} from violating ye Acts of trade; for ye future I am put to great trouble & charge to goe aboard thefe fhipps for want of a good floop & men to attend their Maj^{ties} fervice & am well affured y^t ye advantage will defray all ye Charge I am yo^r hon^{rs} moft obedient fervant

E: R:

[*Endorfed*]

[*Endorsed*]

Virg^a 1692
 Copy of M^r Randolph
 Letter to ye Coff^{rs} of ye
 Customes
 Rec^d 6 Sept 1692
 frō M^r Randolph
 B. D
 P. 35
 Copy of my letter
 To ye Comm^{rs}
 of ye Customs.

CXII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE MURDER OF CAPTAIN
 MARSHALL.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Point Comfort: July: 13th 1692:

S^r

The L^t Gon^r came heither 2 or 3 dayes ago to see the fleet made vp . of which onely some of the largest who loaded in Maryland. . On y^e 23 of June Coll. Copley sent a list but of 10 who had giuen security to sayle with the Convoy: tho' vpon my visiting some ships which were not inserted in that list I found 2 illegall traders: I find Coll: Copley does very much adhere to the Collectors of Maryland wheither I am going from hence in my way to N: Eng^d here has been a barbarous Murther Committed by the Boat swain & a sayler of the Assistance frigott. vpon Cap^t Marshall an Inhabitant & Justice of the peace of this County they fell vpon him & beat him ashoare . then forcd him into a boat & carried him aboard he was so much wounded that after ye Surgeon had

had dresse his wounds was laid in a Cabbin but next morning was missing & since his body never seen. Its supposed he was thrown ouerboard in the night. the Leif^t Gon^{rs} presence was very necessary to prevent a greater mischeife: for the Inhabitants were so enraged that they would haue fallen vpon all the saylers of that frigott vnlesse they had sent Cap^t Marshall a shoare: the L: Gon: orderd the Justices of ye peace to be summoned. they examined the Witneses & found principall the Boatswain. etc: the Gon^t sent his warr^t to haue them sent ashore which was done: but vpon their Confession to a Minister they protest they know not what became of him after he was putt into a Cabin: for they were putt in Irons:⁴¹⁶ vnlesse I can haue a Good sloop with men to go aboard ships going out & coming in the Capes I cannot do the service expected: I intend to send you a list of all ships Trading irregularly if I can gett it dispatchd before the Commandore sayle. my humble service to M^r Powey. I am S^t

Your most humble serv^t

ED. RANDOLPH

the whole ffeet will consist of about 120 sayle. never more in one yeare went out of y^e Capes.

S^t

I remind you that its necessary that 3 or 4 M^{rs} of Bristoll
be

⁴¹⁶ An account of this tragic affair is given in *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1692, no. 2331, from which it appears that Townsend, the captain of the Assistance, was little to blame in the matter, but the absolute want of discipline and order

on the King's ships is illustrated by this case. William Dolby and Edward Legge were condemned to death for the murder (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1692, no. 2593), but were reprieved by the Council of Virginia.

be agreed with for freight for your Boards: for I cannot do it here: as also for M^r Chaplins: I haue gott 500 ffote of Boards for him . he is not to know what I haue provided for you. I haue them from ye Eastern shoare. I haue bespoken of thomas Evernden at little Annameffeck on ye Eastern shore 10000 foot of pine planks & as much black Walnutt plank as he could possibly provide: & 5000 for M^r Chaplin of Coll Charles Scarburrow: at puncatege on ye Eastern shore. I am to giue them bills for what I haue from them to Eng^d & must draw on M^r Chaplin: for his 5000: & for y^{rs} also but beleieve he will take it ill at my hands that I provide more for you then for him: letters must be wrote by ye Masters as well to them as to me: but god willing I will be present at the loading it: all: I am at about 3^{lb} charge to passe the Great Bay of Chesepeak: haue done it 4 tymes already & am now vndertaking the 5. you cannot imagine y^e difficultyes I vndergo in getting from ship to ship in James River: the men of war cannot spare me a boat so often as I want: Its not my fault that I haue not gott 2 or 300^{lb} since my arrivall . but tho I gett onely my labour for my paines yet the illegall Traders will be affrighted to heare I will lett none of them be at quiett: I am s^r

I haue wrote something to M^r Henley
about providing ships to take your Boards
aboard etc:

Y^{rs} E R

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a 13 July 1692
From M^r Randolph
Rec^d 6 Sept: 1692

[*Addressed*] To M^r Blathwayt.

CXIII.

POSTSCRIPT TO CXII.

S^r

Point Comfort July 13.92

This is onely to acquaint you that L^t Gon^r Nicholson has wrote you very largely & sent his & all my letters inclosed in a Box. & delivered safe to Cap^t Townsend the Commandore. which I hope you will receiue vpon his first coming to port. the L^t Gon^r giues you his humble service & to M^r povey. also. I am S^r

Your most humble seru^t

I haue provided you

ED RANDOLPH

10000 ffoot of pine boards etc :

if my wife call for letters or to enquire after my health lett her know I am well & hope in god to continue so :

[*Endorsed*]

Virg^a 13 July 1692

From M^r Randolph

Rec^d 6 Sept : 1692

ffor their Ma^{ties} speciall service

[*Addressed*]

to the Hon^{ble} M^r Blathwayt

Whitehall:

CXIV.

RANDOLPH TO [BLATHWAYT?] ON COPLEY'S CONDUCT.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

ffrom aboard their Ma^{ties} frigott ye
Affistance vnder sayle off C : Henry :

S^r:July 17th 1692 . . .

I am here accompaniing the L^t Gon^r to see the fleet dispatched : & hope they will haue a safe arrivall in Eng^d there are now vnder sayle 100 . & would haue been very many more if Gon^r Copley had thought it for their Ma^{ties} service to oblige all as well as 12 at the most to sayle vnder Convoy : But he is for driving his private Interest : there has been letters passd between him & ye Commandore . & now to justifye all his proceedings . One William Blankinstein.⁴¹⁷ a Holsteiner born : & a Tayler is the man by Presid^t Blackstones recommendation appointed the Gon^{rs} Envoy extraordinary . to y^e Lords of the Councill . to y^e Admiralty with complaints ag^t Cap^t Townsend . & to y^e Custome house ag^t me : I am glad I haue just now knowledge of y^e design : I think all the M^{rs} of y^e Virginia fleet vnder his convoy will Justifie the Commandores Care & diligence in getting the fleet to sea : & as for what I haue wrote to you about Gon^r Copleys manage in his New Gom^t & of M^r Blackstones & M^r

⁴¹⁷ William Blankestein appears as the agent of Maryland at New York regarding the quota to be furnished for the

defence of Albany (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1691, no. 1702).

Mr Platers conniving at & promoting the irreguler Traders & what damages the Merc^{ts} do fusteine in their Trade thereby . pray lett Cap^t Bartholomew Watts of the Globe & Cap^t Samuell Phillips of the Baltamore be examined: they are lately come from Maryland & haue been acquainted with the present state thereof: the people haue been already vp in arms 100 together about the House of deputyes making laws & laying heavy Impositions on ye people in the Absence of their Burgeffes Code is come home he is inveterate ag^t Blackstone tells ye Gon^t he is a Great Rogue. there is laid vpon the people about 500 weight of tobacco a head towards defraying the present Rates: I am going theither & will passe as quietly thro . my busines as I can: but expect that Neither Gon^t Copley will admitt of your Deputation to me Nor the Collectors show me their accounts . till these matters are Considered & new directions from home: Peter Paggen⁴¹⁸ Merc^t in London . is Gon^t Copleys treasurer all his bills are directed & made payable to him. the Leiftn^t Gon^t & I are returning to Kiquetan . from thence I go to Maryl^d & he to the Eastern shore to secure the Capes from Privateers: he is very well & giues you his humble service. Cap^t Townfend will waite vpon you at his arrivall . & lett you know how different Gon^r Copleys methods to serue their Ma^{ties} are from L^t Gon: Nicholfons. Madam Mathews aboard ye Perry & Jane bound for Eng^d has promised me to see my wife if in London. I wish you
all

⁴¹⁸ Peter Paggan was a London merchant of importance, and was consulted by the Lords of Trade as to naval stores, in 1694 (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1694, no. 959).

all happines: my humble service to M^r Blathwayt to M^r Chaplin & to M^r Parry. I am S^r

Your most humble seru^t

L^t Gon^r Nicholfon giues M^r Blathwayt ED. RANDOLPH:
his humble service.

pray excuse my long letters. I omitt many things necessary to be known because I would not trouble you. but I may not forgett that I haue spoake with Thomas Warner M^r of the Hopewell of Bristoll who will bring M^r Blathwayt some of his boards vpon Mr Henleys agreem^t who can do what he pleases with him & many other of ye Bristoll Masters

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a 17 July 92
From M^r Randolph
Rec^d 6 Sept 92

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt. ⁴¹⁹ at/
Whitehall:
By Cap^t Townfend :
Commandore
R : D : G./

CXV.

⁴¹⁹ From internal evidence it would appear certain that this letter is not to Blathwayt at all.

CXV.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF CAROLINA.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

ffrom aboard y^e Affistance frigott
off Cape Henry . July : 17th 1692

S^r

The bearer hereof M^r Isaac Gerrart is lately come from South Carolina he has been in publick Employ^{mt} & can giue you a perticuler account of the present distracted state of that place thro'. the arbitrary proceeding of the proprietors . managed by Coll Ludwell: ⁴²⁰ Its the opinion of all Gend^r here that Its for their Ma^{ties} Interest to settle that plantation vnder an Immediate Gon^t from the Crown: for as it is now none of the Inhabitants are assured of their Lands & Estates. I intend at my return from N: Eng^d to make a visite theither by that tyme I shall haue an opportunity throly to vnderstand the resolutions of ye poeple & will gett an Addresse from them to their Ma^{ties} that they would please to take them vnder their immediate protection. I am S^r

your most obliged humble ser^t

L^t Gon^r Nicholson has discourfd ED RANDOLPH
Gerratt & has promised to assist me all he
can at my return, in managing in that province for their Ma^{ties}
service.

[signed] ffr: Nicholson

I

⁴²⁰ Philip Ludwell had been appointed by the Proprietors Governor of " Carolina " (without further definition) on 8th November, 1691. His proceedings, which were but little better than those of Seth Sothen, whom he succeeded, are chronicled in the *State Papers* for that and the following years.

I hope if I bring that place vnder their Ma^{ties} obedience I
 shall be well rewarded for my care & charg
 S^r Cap^t Townsend Our Commandore will hasten ye Bearer
 to you . & will giue you an account from y^e first port he maks
 both of the fleet & of his perticuler proceedings.

[*Addressed*] ffor their Ma^{ties} speciall service
 to the Hon^{ble}
 M^r Blathwayt at the
 Plantation Office
 Whitehall :
 by Ifaac Guarard /

[*Endorsed*] 17 July 1692
 From M^r Randolph
 by M^r Gurrat

CXVI.

POSTSCRIPT TO CXV.

S^rJuly : 17th 92.

Their Ma^{ties} haue Men of Warr in the Capes, at New
 York & New Eng^d I beleieve it would be of great service to
 their Ma^{ties} if I was appointed to muster the men aboard
 Every ship when euer I came where they be at an Anchor
 which will not (as I think) prejudice my other bufines. I am

Y^{rs} ED. RANDOLPHS^r

the ship Henry Cap^t ffinch Commander
 has not 30 able men aboard his complem^t is 70:

[*Addressed*]

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt
at Whitehall
by Cap^t Townfend
Commandore
R : D : G :

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a 17 July 1692
From M^r Randolph
Rec^d 6 Sept. 1692

CXVII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON COPLEY AND BLACKISTON.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r:

Patuxent . July : 28 : 92 :

I haue made a second attempt vpon Coll Blackiston & at laft gott a fight of his papers . all in as great confufion as you can think of : he giues no account of any money due to their Ma^{ties} nor has for many yeares done it. I find the Gon^r wards for him but to no pvrpofe I haue told ye Gon^r & alfo giuen it vnder my hand to M^r Blackiston . that vnleffe he forthwith draw vp his accounts . & fweare them before ye Gon^r I will fufpend him.

I preffd the registering of y^r deputation to me the Gon^r tells me he has wrote to you by this oppertunity . & ads withall that in regard the word Maryland is not expreffd he cannot offer it to the Gen^{ll} Affembly : but will do what he can for you he has made Thomas Tench one of his Council Receiuer Gen^{ll} the people begin to complaine. M^r
Guinn

Guinn his Attorney Gen^{ll} is dead. I am going to pennsylvania & thence to vifit y^e Northern parts of my walke . to difcouer what Tobacco is carried theither from thofe tobacco plantations more then the Collectors charg themfelues with: I haue taken care for Acorns etc: for you & my freinds . S^r Jō. Louth M^r Lounds etc: my humble fervice to M^r povey . to M^r Chaplin . etc. I am S^r

Your humble fer^t

ED RANDOLPH.

[*Addressed*] ffor their Ma^{ties} speciall fervice.
To the Hon^{ble} Mr Blathwayt
at Whitehall.
by Cap^t Wharton.

[*Endorsed*] Maryland
28 July 92
From M^r Randolp
Rec^d 22 No. 92

CXVIII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE AFFAIRS OF NEW YORK.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Copy

New Yorke Auguft 16th 1692

S^r

My laft to you was from treadhaven in Maryland, by Cap^m Mead . Which I hope is come fafe to you on the 5th Infant I was at Philadelphia and found great Diforder for want of Governm^t they harbour Privateers who haue brought in A great Booty and purchase houfes Land Veffells &c. in the jerseys Murthers are committed and all Manner
of

of Villany It's an Afylum for Debtors from New Yorke. prohibitted Goods are landed there and no Law to prevent it on the 9th I called at Burlington in W. Jerfey where M^r Tatham (formerly Gray) has built A very fine houfe he was counter fecurity for Hart M^r of A floop which carryed her loading of Tobacco to Scotland directly he is not Worth A Groate and Tatham out of the reach of Juftice from thence to Delaware Yatts where in ffebruary laft the River in A Day and A night rofe 30 foot in height and carryed Away many Dwelling houfes Barnes and all the foile they flood upon and the people Miraculoufly preferued thence to Piscataqua Towne in Eaft jerfey about 100 men in it but the Towne of Woodbridge about eight Miles further fettled by A Colony of New England men has aboue 100 houfes and Elizabeth about as many the Inhabitants of both jerfeys haue not for fome Years laft paft been at one Penny Charge nor is it in their power to raife Money. the 12th ffollowing I came to New Yorke and made A Vifit to Maj^r Ingoldeſby at the ffort I was heartyly gladd to find all in peace and Quiett attributed wholly to M^r Grahams care and Contrivance as alfo that their Majefties haue A fettled Revenue and indeed he is in Effect Gove^p Councill and Affembly too I fend You A Copy of the ſpeech he compoſed for Maj^r Ingoldſby upon the Meeting of the Affembly by which you ſee the Preſent ſtate of Albany and of the Govern^t I haue made ſtrict Inquiry with ffredrick Phillips and More Eſpecially with M^r Courtland and others⁴²¹ who
Ingeniouſly

⁴²¹ Moſt of the perſons mentioned in this letter are ſufficiently characteriſed in the *New York Colonial Documents*. With regard to Dudley, Pinhorn, and Townley,

Ingeniously say that had they not perswaded the Maj^r to take possession of the ffort they had been Alltogether by the Ears his cheife Care is to keep all in A steady poise till the Gov^{rs} Arrivall. I Question not but you haue been Plentifully addressed by M^r Dudley from the first shewing how forward he has been and what pains he has taken to haue your salary as Auditor allowed and Duely paid how diligent to seeke the peace and Promote the good of this People that his Labour has been to advance their Maj^{ties} Intrest in obtaining A settled Revenue to support the Governm^t Such Topycks he can write largely upon but every word is false for in the first place when M^r Courtland and M^r Graham the two only men who heartily espoused their Majestys Intrest and would that Your salary should be allowed and paid as by a Vote of the Assembly obtained by M^r Graham which I Inclose pursuant wherunto the Gov^r Dudley Brooks &c to this day Receive their salary Coll Smith and Brook inspired by their Oracle Dudley opposed it but M^r Graham so reasoned the Matter with Coll Smith that he and Brooks were the next Day as Vigorous for it Yett Pinhorne Byard Phillips & Menveile were still against it tho M^r Graham upon all Occasions urged the justice and Necessity of doing it the plain Truth is the three Latter do not oppose it in Relation to You but quarrell that M^r Cortland of as good an estate as any of them should haue A place of profitt and they without.

Townley, Randolph's statement is borne out by an anonymous document in the Record Office (*Board of Trade, New York*, Vol. IV. no. 921), in which, moreover, van Cortlandt and Bayard are charged with abetting Leisler, and Min-

ivell is called "a Frenchman of ill repute." William Smith had been Mayor of Tangier during the English occupation (1662-1683). Livingston and Chidley Brooke are spoken of elsewhere.

out. at this moment is a great Dispute about it I beleive Mr Graham will gett it over otherwise No Accots Audited. Pinhorne only withstands it in A Vowed prejudice to you being Dudleys Creature and of the New England faction. I haue spent A little time to Informe myselfe of the Qualifications of the Councill at New York Phillips Bayard Courtland & Menveile are Men of very good estates and steddy to their Maj^{ties} Governm^t Dudley Johnson and Pinhorne haue no Estates in y^e Province and its A Great heart burning to Most of the Inhabitants that meer strangers should be appointed to Dispose of their Lives and Estates Townly lives in jersey and therefore only refuseth As for Maj^r Peter Schuyler of Albany one of the New councillors he has acted the Part of A Braue man for the Preservation of the Country he marched with 100 men & fell upon A body of 5 or 600 ffrench designed for Albany he killed 130 upon the spott and Wounded 50 more with the Los of few on his side as for Lawrence and Johnson two Infiped Wretches unworthy of their Majesties favour Refuseing to pay the ffees of their Warr^{ts} after they had Passed their word to Mr Graham & M^r Cortland to do it Its Certainly for their Majesties service to remoue such unproper and Unnecessary Toolles as Pinhorne Lawrence & Johnson Who only fill the Roome of Oyr^s of Good Estates and Abilitys to serve in Councill at this time especially when men of Intrest and Resolution are most Neceffary M^r Robert Livingstone A man of a Great Estate at Albany and well known in all Matters of this Governmt (but Coll Dongan) if asked will be of anoy^r Opinion because he would not be bubled by him Charles Lodwick Merch^t in New Yorke well knowne to his
Grace

Grace of Cantuary and M^r Lewis Morris he has the Greatest Estate in the Country (heire to Old Coll Morris) he lately Married M^r Grahams Daughter, of a good Genius and Capacity to serve their Majesties in the Government

S^r you may Please to Remember that in the Yeare 1687 when M^r Courtland & M^r Graham Managed the Office of Coll^r &c of New Yorke By Commi^{co}n they Raifed the Revenue that yeare to £5500 Received by them in Cash besides £600 in Valuable security left in the Office when Plowman succeeded and that M^r Graham was then displaced to make Room for A papist but M^r Brooks the Coll^r has not made aboue £3000 in Cash & £300 in fines . Upon non Apearance in Court &c which is a great Los to the Crowne Discontent to the Inhabitants & Lessens your salary In S^r Edmond Androfs Gov^t there was A person who managed the Office of Comptrouler & survey^r of their Majesties Customes in New Yorke And had About £60 A Yeare for that service but now no such Officer and the Present Officers of the Customes & Revenue are All of M^r Brooks Appointment and as he tells me sworne by himselfe in my severall Letters to the Custome house I haue Represented the Usefullness of such Officers in Virginia & Maryland also and now in my Private Letters to M^r Booth S^r Rob^t Southwell & S^r John Weerden haue proposed the Care of that office to M^r Graham and pray'd their Hond^s Deputation may be directed to him accordingly his Eldest son is Very Capable and With his Assistance will giue a good Acc^ot of his Managem^t in that Office

I am heartyly sorry to find M^r Graham after such A succession of Troubles and the Los of Aboue £1500 as M^r Courtland

Courtland and others of Creditt Informe me which he has spent in their Majesties [service] since he left New Yorke should after all his suffrings and hardships haue his hopes of Refettlement in his former Offices in New Yorke frustrated by the Malitious Contrivance of Dudley his Pretended freind who brought in Pinhorne A Confederate of his to be Recorder and Newton A filly fellow and therefore fitt to be his Tool to be Attorney Gen^l. Persons no way Deserveing and Alltogether uncapable to execute those Offices Mr Graham has A Numerous family to Maintain & lives Upon the Expence and has only the Empty Title of Attorney Generall to support it the Proffitts being fweped away by Dudley and Newton and now since all Places of Profitt and Advantage In this Governm^t Are Disposd of already . twill be A due favor unto him to be Restored to the Records place of New Yorke besides Pinhorne Lives in East jersey to which is no Passage by Land aboue 20 miles from hence and No man but Dudley would haue done such A Preposterous thing When as Mr Graham was an Inhabitant of New Yorke had their Lord's Orders to be Restored and Allways Resident Upon the Place and Also that you would please to procure an order from their Majesties to this Governm^t to settle A Yearly fallary Upon him as their Attorney Gen^l he Draws up all the Laws States & Manages all Publick Affairs has little Consideration for Doeing it till some thing of More advantage Presents and that in your Addresses to Gov^r ffletcher You will Please to Recommend him to his favor being the only Person fitt to Advize wth in the Affairs in this Govern^t and I Question not but upon such Encouragem^t Your salary will be Advanced to £500 A yeare I am Unwilling

willing to deteine you with makeing unnecessary Reflections Upon Ioseph the Jew (for so now M^r Dudley is called) Yett I may not without Injustice to their Majesties Intrest and Many of their suffering subjects in this Province be wholly silent and therefore think it my duty to lay him open in his Colours. I omitt the Bribery and Injustice the Perjury & flattery Commonly Charged Upon him at the Tryall of those Persons who Ruined A thriveing Country and an Industrious People & being plentifully Rewarded for that Disservice to the Crowne his Next projects was to gett 2 or £3000 Upon 6 french ships taken Condemned and sold in New Yorke by Leislars Commi^{ss}ion and in his Gover^t in the first place he setts his bellows to work and by his Emisarys blowed it abroad that those Vessells being forreigne Bottoms could not trade till made free by a Legall Condemna^{ti}on & therupon their Owners who had paid Considerably for them Unwilling to loose all made use of some of his Confidents to moue him for A new tryall of their Vessells the good man Pitying their Condi^{ti}on Prevailed with Govern^r Slaughter to erect A Court of Admiralty which tho he had no Commi^{ss}ion from the Admiralty to Doe nor to Appoint A judge, Registor &c. Yett A Court was erected and Dudley gott Johnson A Cloake for his Knavery to be joyned in Commi^{ss}ion with him and on the 27th March : 91. the play began 4 of the 6 ships mentioned in the Inclosed paper I had from Tuder the Register were Informed against and Condemned in A trice by which proceedings Right or Wrong the Oweners were Devested of their Vessells and some of them forced to pay Extravigant prices to haue them againe others not able to pay what was Arbitrary demanded by Dudleys Factors left them upon his hands

hands which he sold at his own price there being not one of them Aprized May the 2^d: 91 and August the thirteenth following two Vessels were condemned and Aprized Also judge Johnson for so they call him told me he had 10^{lb} Upon Condemnation of every Vessel but Knew not what they were sold at Newton Received of Frederick Phillips in Gold £500 for one of them Coll Slaughter had what Mr Dudley thought fit for he was Cheife and Chapman and its reasonably believed he got about £1500 by this Project but the People Were so highly Incensed ag^t him that Injured Mr Graham Upon the Crocodiles Tears Appeased the Rabble else they had soon Destroyed his judge ship.

And now who after this Would Question but he was sufficiently Gorged and would try at least to live honestly . and so some say he did A little while but as every New Dish Creates A fresh Appetite in A Glutton Lo another Morfell Presents which he would permitt no man to Cook but himselfe. The Matter was thus — About A Month after the ship Zelandia Cap^{tn} Ryer Cornelife Comma^r Came to an anchor at Sandy hook 7 Leagues of New Yorke Loaden with wines Duffalls Holland &c to the Value of £5000 & Upwards he had Letters of Mart and prayed Liberty to Dispose of 20 pipes of Medera Wine to supply his wants but his Designe was to trade. Some of the Members of Council advized that it was fit the Ma^r should come to N: Yorke & make Oath to A particular of what he wanted but Mr Presid^t Exceeding Tender of y^e Hono^r of y^e Govern^t unwilling to put any Difficulty upon an Aly proposed that it was better for A Person well acquainted with y^e Dutch Language should be sent Aboard to see the letters of Mart and also to take an Acco^t of What
he

he wanted And accordingly he Undertook the service more proper for the Coll^r and to the end there might be no Delay put upon A Matter of y^t Concerne he took with him A Blanck Warr^t Under the Govern^t hand & seale which he twice Corrected & Amended before it would serve his Turne thus furnished goes aboard in Company with some Dutch Merch^{ts} who were to Carry on the Intreague and [upon] his Returne the warr^t is produced to the Coll^r filled Up with M^r Dudleys owne handwriting and now in the Coll^d Custody (A Copy of which I also Inclose) for Liberty to sell to the Value of £650 this Warr^t Prevented Cap^{tn} Hicks from seizeing the Zelandia he had y^e Confidence to send Josuah Broadbent⁴²² to the Merch^t of that ship for 40 p^s 8 which Bradbent Received and paid him Duffalls & Holland he sent to shewe to some of his freinds for his use Now After all this Adoe it cannot be mad Apear y^t £20 was laid for Necessaries for the ship being not 10 weeks at see Depeyster had bought one of those french ships & sent her to load Wine at the Mederas at her Returne Cap^{tn} Hicks seized her Comeing in Near Sandy hook at which Depeyster was much Concerned & forthwith Repaired to his Oracle he had A salve for the law provided the Doctor was Well paid & an Informa^{con} was Exhibitted in Court in Depeysters Name Dated two days before y^e seizure of this ship by which means Cap^{tn} Hicks was Debarred y^e benefitt of his seizure & the Profecucon laid asleep upon his paying Round ffees. What shall I mention his

⁴²² Joshua Brodbent was one of those imprifoned with Andros. A remarkable letter of his as to the New England witches, addrested to Nicholfon, is pre-

served (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1692, no. 2283).

his Ingratitude to Dr Coxe⁴²³ who gaue him bread in London he Intrusted him to sell A Cargoe of Goods £1000 Value at New Yorke which he sold at 65 p Cent proffitt to his freind Depeifter & Charged 5 p Cent for Commi^{con} when feveral Merch^{ts} sold the like goods at y^t time for 130 p Cent In New Yorke & now After this and A Long Chain of his frauds & Briberys known & felt by too too many in this Province Muft their Maj^{ties} Intrest the Peace & preferuacion & all thats good in y^{is} Province be facrafised to the boundless Ambition of this Ignis fatuus I find y^e Councill had very great Regard to their Majeftyes Commi^{con} & what they have done in Order to Quieting the Mind of All the Good People and for Continuing the peace of the Province has been done of Abfolute Neceffity and Not Choice y^{ey} Now Labour Under Great Difficulty want of money men Amuni^{con} &c & the ffrench Dayly Expected at Albany haueing lately R^{ec^d} plentifull fupplies of All forts for warr and its an Unexpected Bleffing that they Yett Agree to Raife men and Money for their Common Defence

By this time if not fooner his great Patriott Coll Dongan is arrived in England full freight wth Dudleys Comp^{ts} & Inve^{ctives} ag^t the Prefent fettlement of the Province till the Arrivall of A Govern^r I know he brings credentialls from Mr Dudley they are Oblidged to Affift one y^e other being both Great Invaders upon y^e Right of the Crowne And oppreffors of their fubjects Like Death spareing none when in their Power to Defstroy them and if they haue done no more
wrong

⁴²³ Dr. Daniel Coxe was (with fix others) one of the proprietors of New Jerfey.

wrong it was want of Opportunity Not will to Effect it I haue no prejudice Ag^t M^r Dudley what I haue Wrote is Experimentally True & but y^e Epitome of what you will Receive from hence when the Govern^r is Arrived Every-body fetts Downe at present wth their Loss fearing an Un-luckey sparke may Renue the flame Certainly the Councill of New Yorke whatever may be objected by Men of Intrest and Paffion haue done good service to the Crowne & Preserved the peace of the Province by Defireing Maj^r Ingol-desby to take upon him the Charge of the fort and Governm^t till orders from England Otherwise had Dudley happened to be in the Province & succeeded Gov^r Slaughter he would Iudas Like haue sold his King his Country & the Liberty of the People to the Next frank Bidder. I am goeing from hence to N: England & from thence Returne to Virginia the Latter end of September Next where I shall be Ready to Receiue Yo^r Commands My humble service to the Little M^r & Mifs. I am

Your humble Serv^t.

[*signed*] ED RANDOLPH

Wee haue the News that M^r Vsher & ye Mafts ships are arrived at piscataqua that S^r Edm^d Andros & Coll ffletcher are at sea. I haue giuen y^e Comm^{rs} of ye Customs an account of 1174: 10: 1. h due to their Ma^{ties} from y^e severall officers of y^e Customs in Maryland Pennsilvania & N: York. of which M^r dudley is chargd 666: 13: 4: the third part of a vessell & cargo feized at N: york by Cap^t Hicks

I left Capt. Nicholson in a high ferment vpon y^e News S^r Edm^d Andros was coming Gon^t to Virginia. after he has
chargd

chargd him with ye money due to him for his company he will come to Eng^d & apply for redresse.

Mr Brooks the Collector is proud as Lucifer & negligent in his buſines which vpon the arrivall of Gon^r ffletcher will be rectified. he ſends back Danport becauſe he has no buſines for him. he intends to imploy a boy in his ſted. I heare no juſt reaſon for his complaints ag^t him

[*Endorſed*]

16 Aug: 92

To the Hon^{ble}

M^r Blathwayt:

Rec^d 16 Dec: 92

CXIX.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT: ACCOUNT OF HIS SURVEY IN
THE NORTH.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Boston in New England 27th Sept: 1692

Honrd S^r

Having paſſed thro Virginia Mariland Penſilvania New York and from thence to this place, I viſited my good freind M^r Wallis at Piſcataqua and found him on board Cap^t Holmes Ship haſtening her Diſpatch to be ready as ſoon as the other Maſt Ships, if ſome of yo^r trees proved defective and doe not anſwere the Dimenſions, That muſt be imputed to the poor miſerable Condition of the poor Inhabitants of New Hampſhire and the Province of Maine who by the ill Conduct of the Boſtoners are ruined Their
Oxen

Oxen used to draw the Mafts out of the Woods are destroyed And so generall a feare of the Indians has fallen upon the people, that they will not for any gaine venture abroad in the Woods as formerly.

I went to Exeter in New Hampshire where are yet 5 Saw Mills remaining I found there was no Care taken to p^rserve the few trees fit for standing Mafts And M^r Peter Coffin told Me that Boards being very dear the Loggers fell all trees without any distinction So that he know's not where to finde enough for the Mafts he has contracted for.

Nor has M^r Brenton ⁴²⁴ who has a privy Seale for the Office of Surveyor of their Ma^{ties} Woods in New Hampshire and Maine been once to visit the Woods or appoint any One person to be his Deputy to prevent the great devasta^{ti}on of the trees made in those parts of the Provinces adjoining to Piscataqua And th^o there are good trees in the more Eastern places of the Province of Maine The People are all cut of And You must be supply'd from Piscataqua this time of War or no where

It's therefore necessary that an Understanding Person be appointed to the Office of Surveyor &c if M^r Wallis do not stay in the Country I know no Man so proper as M^r David Ieffries for that place He is Son in Law to M^r Usher now L^t Governor of New Hampshire And his favour will be of great Use.

I have

⁴²⁴ According to Bellomont (*Treasury Papers*, Vol. LXIII. no. 29. p. 325, Sept. 8, 1699), neither Randolph nor Brenton ever did "six penny worth of work" for their salary as Surveyors of Timber.

He says Brenton employed Ichabod Plaisted as his Deputy, and that Plaisted sold the timber for his own profit. See the next letter.

I have made a short Survey of the Woods betwixt Virginia & Maryland on the Eastern Shore But by reason of the difficulty of going in them in the Summer time I refer that till I return in the Winter.

I am heartily Sorry to finde this Country in 4 yeares time since they imprisoned S^r Edm: Andros to be so utterly ruined, The Inhabitants besides the Loss of their trade supported by the ffishery groan under the Unsupportable Burden of Taxes to pay the Debt contracted by S^r W. P. his filly Expedition against the ffrench in which above 1000 Men were destroyed, their Vessells lost &c The town of Salem employ'd 70 large fishing Vessells yearely in taking Codfish, Now but 7 Onely, But in many places not one, to the Eastward they are all destroy'd, their townes and houses burnt by the Indians.

The Inhabitants of New Hampshire have most of them left their dwelling houses destitute, & crowd 7 or 8 families into One little house inclosed with Stoccadoes

M^r Mather boasted in England that if their Ma^{ties} would give them their Charter they would make him Emperor of all America But alas! the flower of their Country is destroy'd, Neither if they had a Body of Men, they have No Officers fit to comand them, Nor are they able to defend a little towne against a few Indians

S^r W P. having been at Charge to obtaine his Gov^t not knowing how long it will last, drives on furiously, He with some others fitted out a Ship and a Brigantine had men prest by Cap^t ——— Comand^r of their Ma^{ties} frigott the Nonfuch, under p^rtence of their Ma^{ties} Service But being put on Board the Ship and Brigantine They went to the
Eastward

Eastward and met a great fflyboat bound for Canada which they brought into Boston Harbour having on Board 5 or 600 hhd^s of Wine, 150 of Brandy, 70 Bailes of Linnen and Woollen Cloth. Severall hhd^s of Coates made up, Hats, Shirts, Stockings and Barrells of flower Valued some say at 12000^l Ster^l some more or less, If the Governo^r had sent them out in Company of the two frigatts The Conception and Nonfuch And Ordered them all to go to the Mouth of Canada where this prize was taken, We might have prevented the Releife of Quebeck where the People were ready to starve before 15 Saile of Ships from ffrance supplied them with Soldiers, And all Sorts of Provifions and Necesfaries for 2 or 3 yeares But the two frigotts were Ordered either to lye in Harbor or at Pemmaquid to guard the Soldiers from the Enemy, whilst they build there a Stone fort

I heartily feare the Los of Albany, And wish that the freindship of the 5 Nations of Indians lying to the Westward of our fouthern Plantations who have hitherto fought vigorously against the ffrench But that place being gone whence they were supplied with Armes and Ammunition they will fall in with the ffrench, Many of them already being Papifts, And then We have pulled upon OurSelves nigh 2000 of the Warlikeft Indians in those parts of America, who will disturb if not destroy all our Tobacco Plantacons

But to make Amends for this great Neglect they Say by the Prifon^{rs} they have Advice that Some of the Ships will returne about next November And that the ffrigatts with the Ship and Brigantine which took the Prize are all fitting out to take them as they come back But at that time of the Yeare hard Weather fetts in And there is no harbouring in those

those frozen Waters Their last Yeares Expedition gave them
a severe remembrance

I am well assured it was knowne in Boston and in New York that Quebeck was severely straitned And if but two frigatts had appeared before the Towne they would have Surrendred for want of bread. Coll Ales then upon his first Arrivall at N: York being very sensible of the great danger Albany is in Sent to this Governm^t for a Supply of 200 Men to reinforce that towne but Nothing here yet concluded upon The Governo^r is gone Eastward and hath taken with him 4 Whaleing Boates Used in taking Whales, And with them will scour the little Creaks and Rivers not before once attempted by Ketches and bigger Vessells in hopes of making a great hand of it for Beaver Skins &c But how he will speed is very uncertaine, if they get Nothing tis good Husbandry to put the Charge to the Publick Account.

S^r Excuse my Entertaining you with this Melancholy Discourse I have alwayes said that the Loss of Albany would be yet the worst Blow to this part of Our English America, As it's a Nationall Concern, so the Charge of defending that place ought to be supported from all the Provinces and Collonies proportionably But inasmuch as they are all Independant and Separate Governm^{ts} they will not contribute to this publick Defence.

It is true Virginia and Maryland⁴²⁵ have lately Ordered 100^l a peece, but Pensilvania, the Iersies, the Collony of Connecticut

⁴²⁵ Maryland's contribution was transmitted in the form of three bills of exchange, of which, as we might expect from our knowledge of Governor Copley,

two were protested and only one paid (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1694, no. 878).

Connecticott and Rhode Island who have all this time sat still and saved their Men and Mony, Not One Penny, yet Albany being lost they will all quickly be Overrun But I hope in God such Methods will be taken to save the Towne this Winter, that hereafter We may have no feare of loosing that And a trade carried on there in times of peace of 40000! a Yeare in Beaver and Peltry with y^e 5 Nations of the Indians

My humble Service to yo^r Lady intreating the Continuance of yo^r favour

I am Yo^r most humble Serv^t

ED: RANDOLPH

[*Enclosure*]

Portsm^o in New England

21 Octo: 1692

M^r W^m Wallis

S^r. herewiy wee give you a Packett directed to M^r W^m Whiteing Containing an addrefs to yeur Ma^{ties} Representing ye Deplorable Condition of yis Province, by reason of ye Warr, And praying yat wee may bee annexed to ye Governm^t of ye Province of ye Massachusetts, wherby their Ma^{ties} Interest wilbe better promoted, And yeur Subjects here, better protected and defended.

And because of yo^r acquaintedness wiy Our Circomstances, by being vpon ye spott, Wee pray your favour to advize M^r Whiteing in yis affaire and to represent our state before ye King & Councill, if yer be occasion, Viz^t

That ye present Warr hay reduced us to soe great Poverty that had it not been for Charitable releife from some of our Neighbouring Governm^t many of our Inhabitants, had not been able to sustaine yemselves.

That

That ye assistance wee have had, of ye Maffachufetts fouldiers, has hiyerto encouraged our standing, and wiyout ye Continuance of it, wee must Quitt ye Provinse to ye Enemy. & be exposed to ruine & destruction.

That wee cannot expect, yat defense & preservation from ye Maffachufetts now, as wee should, were wee in ye same Government.

That it is very necessary for ye Kings service, this provinse should be preserved, oyerwise noe ship-can come into ye River for Mafts to supply yeir Ma^{ts} Navy.

That noying will more tend to our preservation, yen being Vnited vnder one Governm^t wiy our Neighbours

And if you happen to have any conversation wth M^r Allen you may advize him, yat ye Generallity of yis people are determined to oppose his claime here to ye Vtmost, Having foe long defended ye Provinse wiy ye Expense of many of our Lives & estates, However if hee bee pleased to make some moderate propofalls, for his owne reimbursfments, & so quitt his Claime, they may be disposed to buy yeir peace, if not at to dear a rate

Wee are
S^r yo^r most humble fervants
W^m VAUGHAN
RICH. WALDRON.

[*Endorsed*] N England
27 Sept: 92
From M^r Randolph

CXX.

RANDOLPH TO THE LORDS OF TRADE ON NEW ENGLAND
AFFAIRS.*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*Boston: Sep^r 29: 1692.May it please y^r Hon^{rs}

By 2 ships from N: york I wrote very largely to y^r Hon^{rs} in my letters of the 16th of Aug^t past. wherein I did humbly represent, that in my passage from Maryland to N: york I stayd' 3 dayes at Newcastle & found M^r Walliams late Collector there by his own account 135^{lb}: 8: 3: $\frac{1}{2}$ indebted to their Ma^{ties} he expects his charges vpon prosecuting seizures out of it: which I told him I had no Order to allow & pressed him to return the mone[y] by Bills to Eng^d. I called at Burlington in West Jersey where Scotch & other prohibited Goods are frequently brought ouer Land from Amboy in East Jersey. That there is want of an Officer there, but much more of Gom^t to support him in the Execution of his duty. That I found M^r Brookes Collector at N: york regular in his Office, but in regard his vnder-Officers were of his own appointm^t: a Comptrouler was necessary as in f^r Edm^d Andros tyme: The bookes of M^r Plowman & of his successor Peter d'Lanoy late Collect^{rs} at N: york were lost so that I could haue no account of what tobacco had in their tymes been imported theither from virginia: etc: That the present Collector at N: york was indebted to their Ma^{ties} 114^{lb}: 2: 7: sterl: for their third part of a seizure lately made by him at Amboy: out of which he also expects allowance
for

for his charges . but his felling 74 Pipes of S^t Georges wine ⁴²⁶
(part of the Goods there seized by him) Custome free . will
encourage illegall trade I then also transmitted to y^r Hon^{rs}
an account of 1174 : 10 : 1 : $\frac{1}{2}$: due from some of the Collectors
in Maryland etc. & from other persons in N: york . & hope
those letters are come safe to y^r Hon^{rs}

Being at N: york I heard of a Great fraud committed by
M^r Brentons Deputy Collector at New London in Connecti-
cott Colony . (as fine a port as any in N: Eng^d, but its great
distance from y^e Gon^{rs} & principall Collectors giues encour-
agm^t to Interlopers to resort theither) And also hearing of
the Difference betwixt y^e Navall Officer & M^r Brenton the
Collector . about Entering & cleering vessells coming to Boston .
I thought it necessary to go theither in my way I stayd at
Newport on Road Island 3 dayes (hauing a violent fever on
me) a place of Confidra[ble] trade to the West India planta-
tions . where M^r Brenton has appointed Weston clark to be
deputy Collector ; there is neither law nor Gom^t in that Col-
ony . nor another person fitt to be employed in that service .
otherwise M^r Cl might be laid aside : I came to Boston on
y^e 2 instant & found M^r Brenton full of Complaints that he
[&] his Officers were obstructed in their Duty . & one of
them lay 8 dayes in Goal for saying he had a power [to]
show for what he did : or words to that effect . that vessells
with the Ennumerated Comodityes came from y^e plantations
to Boston & ye M^{rs} were forbid by the Gon^t to produce to
y^e Collector their Certificates of Bond giuen where they
loaded

⁴²⁶ St. George is one of the Azores Islands. The seventeenth century popu- larity of the wines from the Spanish and Portuguese Islands is well known.

loaded . so that he knew not wheither the quantityes & qualityes of all those Goods aboard were Containd in the Certificates: That other vessells loaden with the Ennumerated Comodityes were cleered outwards at the Navall Office without shewing the Collector a certificate that bond was first giuen: so that he knows not the quality of such goods as are ship^d. Off . nor the sufficiency of the security.

I waited on S^r William Phips the Gon^r who receiued me in his Coach house . & acquainted him the Occasion of my Coming. That I was directed by y^r Hon^{rs} to visite & assist the Officers of the Customs where needfull . & to see how the Acts of Parlm^t were obserued. he replied that was his busines . that the Comm^{rs} of the Customs had nothing to do in this province, their being none of the Ennumerated Comodityes grow[n] amongst them . & so no need of a Collector with those Instructions etc: that I should not Examine Navall Officers bookes or see any Certificates or bonds taken by him: I told him I had receiued fever[al] Articles of Instructions from y^r Hon^{rs} relating to him as Gon^r & to his Navall Officer . that among[st] other things therein Contained, it was directed that before bond giuen for the Ennumerated Comodity[es] the Collector was to be satisfied in the sufficiency of the security. That the Navall Officer & Collector were to sign all Certificates of vessells outward Bound loaden with those comodityes. That the Collector was to view & examine the Certificates & Coquetts to discover wheither true or Counterfeit Which he could not do vnlesse they were brought to him . after y^e M^{rs} had shewn them to y^e Navall Officer: the 7th following I went
again

again to y^e Gon^{rs} house. & after a long stay at his doore he came to me: I gaue him a copy of y^e 5:8:9:10:11:& 13th Articles of my Instructions & after I had told him the mischeifes in Trade that would follow if the Collector was thus prevented from doing his duty. he threatned he would drubb me if I had not been vnder his Roofe: vpon which I left him. I spoake to some of the Councill who told me they had appointed a Navall Officer by their law (herewith transmitted to y^r Hon^{rs}) which they would stand by. That it was made to the End M^{rs} might be obliged to pay but at One Office where as M^r Brenton exacted extravigant fees of them which he had no Ord[er] from the Gom^t to receiue. the appointing a Navall Officer in those Out ports opens a doore to all illegall tr[ade] for since the Revolution all the Harbors in N: Eng^{ld} are become free ports. & the Ennumerated Comodities are carried to Holland Scotland & Newfoundland without any stop: for the Collector knows neither the Port a vessell is bound to nor her loading: a Vessell is lately gone from Boston to ffrance with a french Pa[ffe] The Navall Officer lately cleered a vessell with Tobacco for Newfoundland. for which y^e M^r produced a certificate of his cleering. another arrived 2 dayes ago from thence & went to Salisbury or Nubery where there is a Navall Officer appointed the M^r lightned his vessell & brought the remainder of his loading to Boston

The Islands of Marthas Vinyard & Nantuckett haue for a long tyme belonged to the Gom^t of N: york & had alwayes an Officer of the Customs setled amongst them from thence, as also ffishers Island nigh New London those places lye most conveniently in the way from y^e tobacco Plantations

to Boston . & vessells loading or vnloading there avoid the danger of sands & Ouer falls which founder good ships sometymes [be]tween those Islands & Boston Harbour. not to trouble y^r Hon^{rs} about the Right of soyle or Gom^t of those Islands . I am humbly of Opinion that Its greatly for their Ma^{ties} seruice, that the trade & commerce of those places as also of ffishers Island & Elizabeth Island be continued vnder the Care & direction of N: yorke . otherwise they will become the staple of European & plantation comodities. Some if not all of them being the proprietyes of the great Trading men in this Gom^t the Inhabitants haue sent their Agents to pray the Gon^r of N: york to take them vnder his protection : Its private Interest & not their Ma^{ties} service which has perswaded the Addition of those Islands to this present Gom^t ⁴²⁷ I went from Boston to Salem where Benjamin Gerish is Dep^{ty} Collector. he is a diligent man. I found in his Bookes about 20 Hogg^{ds} of Tobacco cleered in Maryland by M^r Blackiston & as many mor at Boston . which he refused to account for with me: from thence I went to Piscataqua . where I stayd expecting M^r Brenton to come to me but he came not: the Pink 3 Brothers Thomas Wilkinson M^r seized by him [ab]oue a twelue month ago lay there Rotting now not worth 5^{lb} & 43 Tons of very good salt part of her [car]go much Embezled. I desired the Gon^r that their Ma^{ties} third part might be secured from further [lo]sse. the pink & loading were appraised at 240^{lb} now not worth one
third

⁴²⁷ Of the ludicrous quarrel between Phips and Fletcher as to Martha's Vineyard, a full and entertaining account is given in the *State Paper* calendered as 1693, no. 40, and the documents annexed.

third of that money Pheasant [Est]wick⁴²⁸ is deputy Collector of that Province.

At my coming to Boston & after my return theither from Piscataqua I preffd Mr Brenton to [sh]ew me the account of his seizures & condemnations of ships & Goods & their appraisements that I might [see] what money was due to their Ma^{ties} vpon them: as also what Bonds lay in his hands for y^e appraised value of vessells & Goods seized by him but not prosecuted. but insted thereof without giuing me any [no-]tice went to Road Island I haue now staid 8 dayes in town for his return, In the meantyme I haue made it my busines to Enquire into his management, & find hee has been irreguler & arbitrary in his proceedings. [S]ome vessells he has seized & not prosecuted, Other vessells & Goods he has seized & vpon the appraisement made of them by two persons not sworn. has taken Bond for the appraised value, but not yet putt those Bonds in suite: as appears by the inclosed account.

About Dec^{ber} 1691. Thomas ffisher Mr of the Briganteen Adventure of Londonderry from Scotland lay [o]ff New London in Connecticott Colony. & vpon his producing his Coquett to Mr Wetherell appointed Dep^{ty} [Co]llector by Mr Brenton, entred his Cargo of 2400^{lb} value & had a Permitt to land them. he was [un]willing to come into the Harbour with his Briganteen because most of his saylers were [Sc]otchmen: & therefore putt all his Goods aboard a floop belonging to N: London: Mr Brenton [co]ming accidentally

⁴²⁸ The name is given *supra*, Vol. V. p. 216 of the same volume it appears p. 138, as Pheasaal Estwick, but on as Pheasant Estwick.

cidentally from N: york feized the Goods before they were putt ashore . but not the sloop [w]hich imported them. A speciall Court was appointed & a Jury summoned to trye the seizure. Butt before the Court sate Mr Brenton Compounded with the Scotch Merc^{ts} which came directly from Scotland in the Briganteen according to Articles of Agreem^t signed & sealed by him and them for one halfe of the Cargo onely . & shared it betwixt them at N: London: them [*sic*] Mr Brenton carried away his Moiety in the same sloop they were first seized & landed them at Road Island & from thence he went to Boston & sold them by Invoice for 1200^{lb} to Mr Byfield & company. afterwards he carried a Mer^t with him from Boston to Road Island who with another person vpon the place appraised his Moiety before it was delivered to Mr Byfield ⁴²⁹ for 1050^{lb} the Apprizers not being sworn . & he plentifully rewarded the Owner of the sloop which ought [a]lso to haue been seized: I cannot be informd what part of this money he has made him[f]elfe debtor for to their Ma^{ties}. Sure I am he would haue obtained a Iudgment against [th]e Briganteen the Goods & the sloop also if he had prosecuted them in the Court vpon the [b]reach of severall Acts of Parlm^t as by your Hon^{rs} Instructions he is obliged to do.

I am now going from hence to N: yorke & from thence to Maryland & Virginia & shall perfect my charg^t Mr Blackiston & other Collectors hauing taken an account from y^e
Collectors

⁴²⁹ This does not agree with the character of Byfield given elsewhere by Randolph himself (*supra*, Vol. V. pp. 267, 268), where he is spoken of as ejected by the Massachusetts Government. He was certainly an opponent

of Phips (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1694, nos. 1089 and 1141), and was Brenton's Attorney against him (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1694, no. 1417).

Collectors bookes in those parts of the Tobacco Imported
heither from y^e severall districts in those Tobacco Planta-
tions. I am

Y^r Hon^{rs} most humble serv^t
ED RANDOLPH.

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble} Mr Blathwayt
humbly pref^t

[*Endorsed*] Boston 29 Sept: 1692
from M^r Randolph

CXXI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON FLETCHER AND COPLEY.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

James Town. Jan^{ry} 1: 1692.

S^r

I heartily wish you & all your Children many & many
happy new yeares I have travelled thro my whole district
from ye province of Maine to Roanoak in North Carolina
& visited all the Collectors. by the next I shall present you
with a perticuler of my proceedings therein. I waited vpon
Coll ffletcher in my return from Boston. he is a very re-
ferued Gen^l he told me S^r Edm^d Andros was (as he be-
leiued) never Guilty of an Immorrall thing. but perceiue
there was no hearty good Correspondence betwixt them: at
his going aboard from N: york Gon^l ffletcher. waited vpon
him to his pinnace but fired not One Gunn: which was
taken

taken notice off by all. & discourfing here with S^r Edm^d he very much inconvenienced himfelfe at fea parting with his halfe of ye Great Cabin, & lay in a ftanding Cabin in the fteerage that Coll ffletchers family might not bee freightned, and as S^r Robert Southwell defired was very ffree in difcourfe & informing of the ftate & perfons fitt to be trusted in New york.

I am endeavouring to gett a floope to lye off in the Bay (the Henry prize frigott being layd vp at Old point Comfort for want of Cables & Anchors) to feize vpon the illegall Traders before they gett into Maryland: where they find protection

Copies of the Order in Councill relating to Bulke tobacco are fent to fome in this province & Maryland, which will hardly amount to a Law in the latter, becaufe becaufe it will very much leffen Gon^r Copleys profitts which arifes vpon the number as well as Tonnage of fhipping. I intend to trye once more what he will fay to your Deputation & wheither I may a^ct as therein directed: I haue found feuerall Certificates in my furvey at Bofton etc: figned by M^r Blackifton & an account made vp by M^r Mein in 1688: that he is aboue 1000^{lb} indebted to their Ma^{ties} vpon the duty of 1: penny per pound. vpon tobacco: I am directed by my Inftuctions to fuppend an Officer for neglect etc: but with the approbation of ye Gon^r I fhall fee how Gon^r Copley will manage that affaire. I haue mett with feuerall Groffe miftakes in fome other Officers which I haue not now tyme to remember. them to you: I take all care I can to haue ready for the next fhipping your Pine Ceder & black Walnutt planke. I humbly intreat the Continuance of y^r favour
&

& protection against the little contrivances of some in Maryland who are become my open Enemyes because I disturb their trade by seizing illegall Traders . and remaine in all Duty

Your most humble seru^t M^r Sherwood giues yr

ED RANDOLPH. his humble seruice :

my humble Duty to the E : of Rochester.

I heartily reioice to heare his Lordsh^p is at y^e Councill Table.

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}

M^r Blathwayt

at Whitehall. /

[*Endorsed*] Virginia

1 Jan^{ry} 9 ^{$\frac{2}{3}$} /

From M Randolph /

He is endeavoring to get a sloop to Cruise instead of y^e Henry prize Pine , Cedar , black Walnut by the next shipping

CXXII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT SENDING SEEDS ETC.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

Virginia Jan^{ry} 3 : 1692 :

I send you a paper of feedes of what I found standing in ye woods as I returnd from N : Eng^d to This place. there are black Haws : of virginia : some Cotton feedes from N : Carolina . & some senna , which the Indians bruise & putting the Juice in warm water to make them vomitt. I haue ordered some Black walnutts to be sent by the Bark by which

which I fend this. M^r London will trye Experiments to make them grow. M^r Banister ye cheife florist being dead here is no man vnderstands the Nature of names of the many hundreds growing here different from those in England. with all prosperity I am s^r

Your humble ser^vt

I am in great ED RANDOLPH

want of paper:

pray M^r poveys supply by the next shipping
to whom my humble seruice/

[*Addressed*] To M^r. Blathwayt.

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a 3 Ian^{ry} 93
From M^r Randolph
Rec^d 31 Mar 93
with feeds/

CXXIII.

CHIDLEY BROOKE TO BLATHWAYT ENCLOSING A LETTER
OF RANDOLPH.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

New York March 7th 169³₂

By accident a ruff Draft of a letter writ to you by m^r Edw: Randolp about August last came to my hand wherein I found a great deal of fatyre ag^t som persons, nor could I I who never did nor thought him prejudice escape the lash of his pen. There I am accused to you as a person so fare disaffected to your intrest, as to oppose the passing an order
for

for your fallary as Auditor Gen^l. Tho it appears plainly that I was the p^{son} that craved allowance for it in the same paper where I did for my own fall^y and incident charges, and M^r Steph: Courtland and the rest of the gen^{tl} of our Councill here can evidence that I urged it with all the warmth and strength of argument I was able to use: for I did ever and do think it was and is your just right. I find my enimies are put to hard shifts for impeachments to spatter me withall; and rather than want somthing to say ag^t me, they'll invent: but as they never shall have truth to say that can prejudice me, so I trust their lies will be as easy demonstrable as this contrivance of that busy man and com as hapily to light. Tis reported he is gon for England if so I expect he will put his invention on a second Labour there, to do me an injury; becaus I have bin sharp upon him for his first essay which he in his Letter to you (exacted from him in my own justification) owns to be an untruth. I saw him write the originall of this enclosed copy and read it before he seald it. — he left it in my hand (according to my request) That I might be assured of its going forward. and knowing it imported nothing but what related to me, I broke open the seal and have Drawn severall copies thereof, least the originall should be lost, and so the designe of vindicating my self made frustrat. When I craved allovance for fallaries &c. on Last Xmas acc^t I moved that your fallary at 5 p^{ts} out of the whole produce of the Revenue of this province from the 30 of Jan^y 169¹ to the 25 of Dec^r Last might be allowed: And som urged the poverty of the govern^t as an argument ag^t it: but at length it was agreed that 5 p^{ts} ut supra should be allowed you for the produce in Chrifmas quarter Last,
and

and so successively for the future which I will accordingly keep in my hand till you direct how it shall be disposed of from time to time.—for what time had elapsed before the beginning of Christmas quarter I could not prevail upon them to have an allowance. m^r Step: Courtland espous'd your interest like a friend others study rather to serve them selves than you and what favours cannot seem to come from them, they will oppose and rather suffer you to want your right than not be obliged to them as Instruments in the acquisition.

These come by way of Boston in New England and by no certain opportunity, or my acc^{ts} should be also sent: But a ship is designed from hence for London By which all publick papers will be sent.

I must begg your pardon for the trouble I give you of these which is only to vindicate my self from untrue accusations that might have rendered me most ungrateful. In the acc^{ts} you will (I hope) receive from His Excell^{ty} Coll^l Fletcher you will be advised of the French of Canada's having invaded this province and being drove away with considerable loss. I will add no more But that I am S^r

Your most Humble and most obedient servant

CH BROOKE

the Copy of M^r Randolphs Lett^r here inclosed
is attested by m^r Steph: van Courtland

[*Endorsed*] N: York 7 March 93²₃

ffrom M^r Brookes

Rec^d 16 June 93

acknowledged 29 Jun 93

CXXIV.

THE LETTER ENCLOSED.

S^r

N : yorke Oct : 20th 1692.

Vpon discourse with M^r Brookes about the getting an order for the obtaining y^r Salary to be passd by the Gon^r & Councill of this province I find he passd it in his account of Incidents from ye 30 of Jan^ry 1690 . to ye 24th of June following and as he tells me was alwayes forward that it should be allowed . & the same I haue confirmd to me by M^r Courtland . & the minute of Councill . Dated 29. July 1691 : & would haue you not think otherwise of him but that he continues stedfast to y^r Interest: what I haue formerly wrote in this matter was vpon an ilgrounded information.⁴³⁰ thus much I thought in Justice to him to acquaint you & that I am S^r

Your humble Serv^t

ED RANDOLPH.

[*Addressed*]

To the Hon^{ble}

M^r Blathwayt.

at Whitehall:

[*Endorsed*]

N York 20 Oct : 1692

From M^r Randolph

about M^r Brooks.

CXXV.

⁴³⁰ Randolph had, however, been perfectly right in his estimate of Brooke, as appears from the latter's subsequent history. (See the *Introduction, supra.*)

Randolph had already sent the letter on the date above given; Brooke did not despatch his copy till 7th March of the following year. Both are preserved in the

CXXV.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON ANDROS'S ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA.

*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*Hon^d S^rJames Town : March : 14th 1692 :

In mine of y^e 1. of Jan^{ry} past I wrote you that I had travelled thro my whole destri^ct from y^e province of Main Eastward to Roanoak in Carolina; & haue visited all the Collectors. Mr Muschamp⁴³¹ has a sorry station he getts what he can which now is not much . & places all to Incidents. the Inhabitants of N: Carolina are much vnfettld in regard Coll Ludwell pretends by a new grant to take in much more of y^e fouthern parts of Virginia then formerly, they claymd. S^r Edm^d Andros⁴³² is here very intent vpon repairing the vtterly ruind' fortifications in this Colony . & raising the Great Gunns funk for many yeares in sand and stubb . & has provided land carriages for them. he has made a most convenient Armory in one of the Garretts in the state house in James Town & furnished it with good arms . etc: & has mightily gaind vpon the affections of the Councill & cheife
in

the Blathwayt correspondence. For further evidence as to Brooke's character (he was a second Randolph in some respects), see *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1696, no. 1546, and *Manuscripts of the House of Lords*, pp. 500, 503.

⁴³¹ For George Muschamp, who was collector at Charleston, see *supra*, Vol. II. p. 86.

⁴³² For a brief notice of Andros's successful government of Virginia and the unfortunate quarrel with the ecclesiastical authorities which led to his removal, see Mr. Whitmore's *Introduction* to the *Andros Tracts*, Vol. I. For Andros's activity, cf. *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1693, no. 466.

in the Country by his euen Temper Mr Robinſon is dead & Coll Ralfe Wormeley ſucceeds in that Office. Want of ſhips & an extreame ſcarcity of Engliſh goods putts the people generally vpon planting Cotton . which thriues in all places : with great ſucceſſe. I find it a growing Euill & will in a little tyme be followed by all . & tobacco left off wholly in 6 or 7 yeares vnleſſe the Inhabitants can be plentifully ſupplied with goods at cheap Rates. I heare many ſay that they intend to leaue off planting tobacco and employ their ſervants vpon making linnen & woollen Cloath. Coll Cuſtis makes 500 yards of woollen yearely in his houſe more then he has occaſion to ſpend . which he ſells to his Neighbors. I haue ſetled my buſines with all the Collectors here & am going to S^t Maryes . where there will be a Generall Affembly : I haue found M^r Blackiſton to bee aboue 1400^{lb} ſterl indebted to their Ma^{ties} vpon ſeizures & ye Duty of 1 penny p pound . and expect the illegall Trade will go on in that province till the Officers of ye Customs are all remoued . & the Gon^r receiue a ſevere check for countenancing them in their ill practices I intend to trye once more what he will ſay to your Deputation & wheither I ſhall act as I am thereby directed. I hope Cap^t Nicholſon is long ſince arriued he will inform what I cannot haue tyme to write of the manage of that Gom^t at N: york I found Gon^r ffletcher a man of great retirednes. he has by ye extraordinary care of M^r Graham ſpeaker of the houſe of Burgeſſes . obtained a preſent of 1500^{lb} ſterl. from thoſe who had been ſufficiently ſpur galled by Leiſter & his Mirmedons. I am to remind you that an Officer be empowred to receiue their Ma^{ties} Tenthſ due vpon Condemnation of Prize veſſells
&

& goods there is now 1000^{lb} sterl due vpon the last prize . loaden with wine etc: & 100^{lb} vpon a pink taken by ye Non-fuch frigott. I haue also mentioned in my former letters the like necessity of an Officer to muster the saylers aboard their Ma^{ties} men of warr in those parts of the world. there are 2 in N: Eng^d one in N: york & another in this River . her complement of men is 70 but not halfe of that are belonging to the ship: I haue often wrote home for the securing the Acts of trade that 2 good katches or briganteens well mand'. will do greater service to their Ma^{ties} Interest in the Bay then any 2 frigotts vsually sent from home. His Excell. vpon my representing to haue a vessell well mannd to plye in the Bay to speak with all vessells going in & out of the Capes . ordred a Briganteen for that service she was mannd with 20 men belonging to the Henry prize frigott (being disabled for want of cables & Anchors to go out) I went with them but they not being acquainted with the Eastern shore, in 12 dayes-time spent two Anchors . & with great difficulty gott a harbour. the Capt. has desired his 20 men to take care of y^e frigott & now one design in the Bay is frustrated: I am told the Lords of y^e Treasury haue impowred Blackiston & Plater the other Collector to receiue to receiue [*sic*] their Ma^{ties} Revenue in that province. they are both Coll Copleys Creatures & will be wholly guided by him for their own profit also. I inclose to you a Copy of my account sent to ye Custome house by this conveniency. I wrote that in regard Cap^t Culpeper is in England & has abdicated his Office of Land Surveyor . etc. in virginia that the Lords of the Treasury would please to giue me a Commission for that Office. I would advance their Ma^{ties} Revenue

enue aboute 5000^{lb} a yeare . & no man haue juſt grounds of Complaint. I am leaving this part of virginia & expect more rude treatment from Coll Copley then I had from y^e Boſtoners. I ſhall write you at larg from S^t Maryes. I haue not tyme to write to M^r Povey hauing giuen him a larg letter by Milner . who ſayld to Briſtoll the beginning of the laſt month. This is by Bayley of Briſtoll whom I had engaged to bring you ſome ſtocks of Black Walnutt for planks out of this River . but my Merc^t has deceiued me. I haue recommended the care of that affaire to S^t Edm^d Andros who has promiſed to promote it. By Milner I ſent 2 boxes of Black walnutts for S^t Rob^t Southwell & you . directed to M^r Henley with a parcell of feeds etc : of this Country. I hope they are well come to him: Coll Lear Collector at Nancimum putt them aboard & ſent his letter of adviſe alſo to Mr Henley.

This of all the Gom^{ts} I haue paſſd thro'. has the onely face of peace & Good Gom^t. Carolin has a Gon^t at Aſhley River . yet is wholly vnſetled Coll: Ludwell advancing his Intereſt by privateers . coming into his Gom^t. Maryland quiet by force for ye preſent. Coll Copley has admitted Blackiſton a ſhare in his Councils & profitts . his Colleague if not his Superintendant . that will not hold long. The 2 Jerſyes haue a Mock Gom^t vnder Mr Hamilton . he has perſwaded the Credulous poeple to raiſe 400th in each province for ſupport of Albany but When & how to be expended is ye queſtion. Penſilvania is much like it. New york poeple much diffatiſſied to haue all places filld vp with Iriſh . & very good men diſplaced to make them Room. New England is worſe then Bedleham . Euery place full of
Horror

Horror & Confusion . Connecticut ouer run with fraud & Hypocrify . Road Island with folly & quakarisme . N: plymouth as poore as a Church moufe . Boston ouer fpredd with fantafticall delufions . Horrid Murthers Cruell flauery & oppreffion Rampant: the poeple are become more ftupid then their Gon^r: more arbitrary then the members of their Councill & more inflexible then their pragmatticall Teachers . and after all I heare my neighbour Johns Bed of Honour pifcataqua that about 3 or 4 parcells of miserable wretches in poore Garifon houfes inftead of towns are labouring to fink yet deeper into irreparable ruine . & are petitioning to be joined to their Brethren of y^e Bay. the laft fummers Journey coft me aboue 100^{lb} in hard filver . as by my bills drawn vpon Mr Chaplin does appeare. I haue and muft run thro' many fore difficultyes in the difpatch of my bufines . whilft Mr Mein enjoyes a plentyfull yearly falary & fitts at his eafe doing Nothing.

I haue taken more paines with fome of the Collectors then a dancing M^r does to pace a Country Squire . & not one of them has prefented me with an od gloue. But Mr Mein M^r Mein . he was the man he kifsd their wiues & lay with their Daughters & fervants & left fome fuckers behind, & his return was Omne bene.

I haue left fuch plaine directions with all the Officers in this Colony that they cañot except wilfully do amiffe . & as for Maryland I expect to do noe good there. my intentions are (vnleffe I receiue orders from my M^{rs} to the Contrary to make a ftepp home . & acquaint them the ftate of their affaires in thofe parts of y^e world. I am very well fatisfied it will be much for their Ma^{ties} feruice . & hauing once by their
directions

directions . taken a trip from thence to the West Indies I shall discover to them the great cheat putt vpon ttrade: I confesse hauing nothing else to do I may ride 2000 miles euery yeare from End to End in my district but to little purpose more then to aire my horses. I see no good is to be done till all those distracted Gom^{ts} are putt vnder the care of sober men. if I make a seizure if I make a seizure [*sic*] in Maryland Pensilvania . etc. or any part of N. Eng^d as I ha[ve] done . to what purpose the Judge Jury & ye poeple will haue it cleerd. pray god send all well at home & then those greivances will be cured in tyme. It was S^r by y^r extraordinary favour & directions that I was recommended to this employ^{mt}: I shall do nothing nor euen think further till I haue y^{rs} or M^r Povys letters which I impatiently expect. Its against my nature to sitt still in one part of the world, when I may be more serviceable then another: I haue heartily endeavored to prevent the interloping trade . the cheife matter to be done here . which I dare engage to do effectually when Maryland pensilvania . & other places be putt vnder men of Hon^r: till then I can do as much seruice in Eng^d as traversing the Earth. the Gen^{ll} assembly are now sitting Towns or no towns is ye word. I find one maine end of towns is to settle Manufactures & to liue without any dependance vpon Eng^d for supply of Cloathing etc: my humble seruice to M^r Povey. I heartily wish health & happines to ye little M^{rs} & to pritty Mifs. I am s^r

yours in all duty

ED RANDOLPH.

His Excell: giues you & M^r Povey his humble seruice. mine to M^r Parry . also.

the inclosed is a rough draught of the Account of money due.

how far Mr Blackifton & Mr Brenton are to be trusted in their Ma^{ties} affaires of The Customs . I leaue you to Judge. I know not how the Custome house will take it that I impart to you papers properly to be addrest there.

to Mr Blathwayt

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
Mr Blathwayt.

[*Endorfed*] Virg^a 14 Mar : 1693
From Mr Randolph
Rec^d 18 May 1693

the fortifications repairing
Mr Robinfon dead
Mr Wormley to succeed
Much Cotton planted for want of
European goods
Blackifton 1400 debt^r to ye King
Mr Randolph is going to Maryl^d to offer
his Deputation from the auditor once more
If he had the Survey^{rs} Place he would
Improve y^e Revenu 5000^l
S^r Edm^d Andros promised to send
some blk Walnut tree stocks
Acco^t of y^e Colonies in N : America
Mr Randolph coming home
Hopes to go to West Indies
the Affsembly setting, Towns or no towns
Reason of towns to Improve manufactures of Wool
Incloses acco^t of money du frō y^e Collectors

CXXVI.

COPLEY'S ARREST OF SIR THOMAS LAURENCE.

Board of Trade, Maryland, Vol. II. no. 102 I.

Maryland Is.

By his Excell: the Gon:

Whereas S^r Thomas Laurance Barr^{tt} One of the Justices of ye provintiall Court and of their Ma^{ties} Hon^{ble} Councill within this province Standeth Charged with severall high Crimes & misdemeanors by him committed & done in contempt of their Ma^{ties} Authority & the present Gom^t thereby here established Contrary to his Oath the Duty of his place & the trust reposed in him, I Lionell Copley Esq^r : Cap^t Gen^{ll} & Gon^t in Chiefe of this their Ma^{ties} province & Territory of Maryland by vertue of the power & Authority to me in & by their Ma^{ties} Royall Commiffion & Instructions giuen and Granted do hereby in their Ma^{ties} Names Summon & Cite the said S^r Thomas Laurance, that all excuses fett apart he be, & personally appeare before me & their Ma^{ties} Councill at y^e Citty of S^t Maryes on Thirsdlay the 17th day of Aprill next to answear the primiffes & what shall be then & there objected ag^t him. In the meane tyme I do also by vertue of the power & Authority aforesaid at present dismisfe & suspend the said S^r Thomas Laurance from being a member of their Ma^{ties} Councill & One of the Justices of the provintiall Court afores^d or in any other part of the province & likewise strictly Charge & Command him to desist from further presuming to act or Officiate as Publick Notary & as Such from making or signing any Instrument with in this province, for any matter

matter or thing what foever any wayes relating there to as he hath already* illegally done whereof lett him take due connuzance & thereof in no wise faile as he will anfwear the Contrary at his perill. Giuen vnder my hand & Seal this 27th day of March 1693 in the fifth yeare of y^e Reign of Our Soverain Lord & Lady King William & Queen Mary.



L: Copley

To S^r Thō Laurance Barr^t to be Communicated
& delivered vnto him by

Θ John Lluellin clerke of the Councill in
the prefence of Robert Mafon Gen^t High
Sheriffe of S^t Maryes County:

* by signing a protest of Wilt Barnet
ag^t the proceedings of ye Court in S^t Marys
in January laft

Θ Luellin made Notary publick by Gon^t Copley : tho' that
Office granted S^r tho : Laurance in expresse words in his
letters patents from their Ma^{ties}

[*Endorsed*]

27 March 1693

Copy of the Warr^t for

Apprehending S. tho : lawrence

Rec^d 13 Dec : 1693

B : G

P : 31

CXXVII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT CONCERNING SEIZURES.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Hon^d S^r

Point Comfort : March : 28 : 1693 :

In my passage from James Town to S^t Maryes in Maryland wheither I am just now bound : I mett with Cap^t Bayley Commander of the Betty vpon whom I haue sent you a large letter of the 14th instant and two Panthers skins directed for you to M^r Henley. I inclosed an account of money due to their Ma^{ties} vpon the third part of seizures made in these plantations : That Article of 3 pipes of Brandee feizd by Coll : Cole I could not then perfect, but since by his letter in answer to mine he writes me as follows . the brandee was full but 2 pipes & halfe containing in all 300 gall^s at 5^d per Gallon & charges being ded: amounts to : 21 : 10 : 1 : a third :

besides 6^{lb} : 10 : 10^d : their Ma^{ties} third of a small ketch called ye Snowhill merçt of Maryland . feized by Cap^t Roe in ye yeare 1688 in Coll : Birds hands also: I haue not further to do at present in this Gom^t hauing fetled all matters with ye Collectors . & perhaps too much with Coll Cufis: for not a few & not of the least Ranke are not pleased that I haue made so strict a search with him. the provinciall court fitts y^e 6. Aprill at S^t Maryes. Coll Copley has buried his Lady. Richard Lee⁴³³ formerly of ye Councill in virginia has taken
The

⁴³³ Lee had been excluded from the Council in 1691 for refusing to take the oaths of allegiance to William and Mary. There were several other colo-

nial non-jurors in Virginia (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1691, no. 1583).

The oathes & admitted to his place in ye Councill. his Excell is very well: I know not what ye Councill do: poeple are much diffatiffied to heare no ships are coming from England heither: with my humble seruice to M^r Povey I am S^r

Your most humble ser^t

ED RANDOLPH:

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a

28 Mar 9²/₃

From M^r Randolph

A letter of y^e 14 wth two Panther fkins

Amendm^t of y^t acco' of mony due to feizures

Coll Copley' lady dead

Coll lee takes the oaths & is readmitted to ye Councill

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}

M^r Blathwayt

Office N.

at Whitehall

by Cap^t Robert Bayley

CXXVIII.

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA ON RANDOLPH'S ARREST.

Colonial Entry Book, Vol. LXXXIV. p. 804.

Aprill 27th 1693

Vpon reading this day in Councill a letter of the 22 Instant to the Gouvernor from Col^t Charles Scarborough Comānder in Cheife, a Justice of the Peace, and President of the Court in Accomack Country, that M^r William Anderfon

Anderfon one of the Justices there hath about the 20th Instant, abetted and Suffered the under Sheriff of Sumerfett Country in Maryland, and others by pretence of a Warrant from the Gouver^r of Maryland, to take and Carie away Edward Randolph Esq^r out of Accomack in this Gouverment to Maryland It is the opinion and Aduice of the Councill and Ordered in Councill that the said William Anderfon be sent for by Warrant to the Sheriff of Accomack Country forthwith to Answer what shall be Alleaged against him in that behalfe before the Gou^r and Councill in James Citty. It is also the Opinion and Aduice of the Councill that his Excell^y the Gou^r write to the Gou^r of Maryland to remand the said Edw^d Randolph so forceably taken away by pretence of his Warrant out of the Gouverment.

CXXIX.

FURTHER ACTION OF THE COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA.

Colonial Entry Book, Vol. LXXXIV. p. 808.

Att a Council held att James Citty y^e 26th May 1693

His Excell^y Lionel Copley Esq^r Gou^r and the Councill of their Maj^{ties} Prouince of Maryland by letter to His Excell^y dated the 6th Instant, w^{ch} his Excell^y caused to be read in Councill haueing desired to haue Edward Randolph Esq^r remanded into the Custody of the Officer that persues him from whome he made his Escape (and is thereby become a Felon) and in a postscript to the said letter, dated the 11th Instant, Signifying that they send M^r Charles Nicholson and
M^r

M^r Luff high Sheriff of Sumerfett County to receiue his Excell^{ys} Comānds to that purpose, On dew Consideraçon whereof, and off what the said Randolph Surveyor Gen^{tl} of their Maj^{ts} Customs in the North parts of America was Comitted for. It is the Opinion and Aduice of the Councill that the said Randolph ought not by Law to be remitted to the Gouverment of Maryland, and Ordred Accordingly

Wheras John Chiles Messenger was by Warrant from His Excell^y Comānded to take and receiue into his Custody from Sebastian Delastatus Constable in Accomack County Edward Randolph Esq^r Surueyor Gen^{tl} of their Maj^{ts} Customs in the North parts of America Comitted by William Anderson Gent. One of the Justices of the Peace for the said County of Accomack and him safely to bring and keep att James Citty till further Orders, w^{ch} being Serued, accordingly And the said Edward Randolph Appearing and there being no legall Cause for the said Andersons Comitting of the said Edward Randolph, Itt is the Opinion And Aduice of the Councill that the said Edward Randolph be discharged from the same and from further Attendance, and Ordred accordingly

Wheras Edward Randolph Esq^r Surueyor Gen^{tl} of their Maj^{ts} Customs in the North parts of America was by Warrant from his Excell^y Lionell Copley Esq^r Gou^r of their Maj^{ts} Prouince of Maryland Comitted to the Custody of the Sheriff of Sumerfett County for uttering and diuulging feuerall false and Mutinous speeches and reports and the said Edw^d Randolph haueing made his Escape into this Gouverment, and William Anderson Gent. One of the Justices of the Peace for Accomack County haueing issued
out

out hue and Cry for the Apprehending of the said Edward Randolph, and also granted a Warrant for Com̄itting returning and Conueying the said Edward Randolph to the Gouverment of Maryland, w^{ch} Act and proceedings of the said William Anderson being Adjudged Vnwarrantable and in Contempt of this Gouverment Itt is therfore the Opinion and Aduice of the Councill that the said Anderson be suspended from being a Justice of the Peace and from all Other Offices and places whatsoever Ciuill or Military and giue bond wth good Security for his good behauour to any two of their Maj^{ties} Justices of the Peace for the Aforesaid County, One of them being of the Quorum, And Ordred Accordingly

CXXX.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT AFTER HIS ARREST.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

Rappahannack . July . 14th 93.

In my letters of ye 18th of March by ye Betty of Bristoll capt^d Bayley Command^r I inclosed to yr Hon^r a Copy of the Gen^{ll} Account of money & tobacco due to their Ma^{ties} from y^e Collectors of their Ma^{ties} Customs in the severall destriçts etc : I now send you a Copy thereof Compleated with the vouchers : therein you see how farr M^r Blackiston is run in arreares . Butt what I haue chargd him with is not one sixth part of what he has received vpon the account of the duty of one penny p^r pound : the paper N^o 1 : N^o 2 : N^o 3 : contains M^r Blackistons letters & paper to me . But my answere left with the Gon^r for him . made so deep an Im-
pression

preffion on his Excell & Mr Blackifton fearing as he deferues to be difmiffd of his Office of Collector . that they haue Euer fince confpired to ruine me : I inclofe alfo copyes of the Gon^{rs} warr^{ts} ag^t me for no other reafon then truely representing his granting illegall Traders to fayle before I could be fatisfied in their fecurities : as I haue in many of my letters represented to the Cufrome houle.

A privateer with a fhip of 30 guns came to N: york Gom^t with 70 men aboard they all fhared 1500^{lb} a man the Gon^r had the fhip : & they permitted quietly to Inhabite.

In my former letters I haue recommended Mr Grahams feruices and fuffrings at N. yorke where he is reduced to great neceffities . his place of Atturney Gen^l being rather a charg then profit. Mr Blackifton is now Chancellour at Maryland & one of the receiuers of their Ma^{ties} Revennue. that Office would well fuite Mr Grahams Occafions & he would difcharg it with Hon^r and advantage to ye Gom^t Gon^r Copley has not a man of fenfe to converfe with in his affairs thofe of the Councill : Mr Mein in his letter to me from Barbados Oct. 5 : 1692 . writes (As to Mr Blackifton the Board had my opinion long ago . that he was an ill man . of which I gaue them feuerall prefumptions : I told them tho they amounted not to a full enough prooffe for me to fufpend him vpon yet I would not entruff fuch a man in my Own concerns)

I do expect that you haue provided with fome of the M^{rs} of Bristoll to take aboard 5000 ffoot of pine plank and as much Black walnutt plank as may anfweare y^r occafions. I haue befpoke 1000 ffoot . but can do nothing int' till I receiue y^r Orders to fome M^{rs} to take it aboard I haue endeavoured

endeavoured for Red Ceder . from Carolina & haue been promised a quantity . to be sent me . but cannot depend vpon it till I see it the Man of Warr lyes vp in the freshes of James R : vnfitt for seruice. I tyre out myselfe in pursuing illegall traders . but to no purpose . vnlesse there be some certaine Methods & more severities imposed vpon them then I find in the Booke of Rates Its to no purpose to haue any Coll^r in those Tobacco plantations . as for instance I feized one Davis M^r of a forain built vessell she belongs to to Scotch Owners liuing in Aire & Nern in Scotland. he had 210 Hogg^{ds} of tobacco aboard. after my feizing him he went away without Cleering . but hauing left with his freind bills of Exchange to pay the Collectors ffees & the Country duties. the Collector seems well satisfied & when he comes In next yeare if I sue him for producing a false Certificate also, as he did with another ship last yeare . No Court or Jury will find against him so that Its to no purpose to sue them. I am in dayly expectation of letters from your Office & from ye Custome house . & then vnlesse I receiue Expresse Commands to the Contrary I beleiue it for their Ma^{ties} seruice for me to step home to represent the present state of the Trade of those Tobacco plantations : It will be endlesse to write the whole matter to be said in that behalfe. I wish all happines to you & to the little M^{rs} & Misse returning my hearty thanks for all y^r favors I am S^r

I shall be glad to heare you

Your humble ser^t

haue receiued the two pan-

ED RANDOLPH

thers skins. my humble seruice to M^r Povey. I receiued his letter of ye fifth of November with his Ma^{ties} speech . for which I heartily thank him .

[*Addressed*]

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt. /

Rec^d 25 Sept: 1693

[*Endorsed*] Virginia 14 July 1693
From M^r Randolph

Rec^d 25 Sept: 1693

Acco' of money due f^{ro}
Blackifton

M^r Blackifton' los

A Privateer shar'd £1500 a
Man at N York

M Graham recomended to
fucceed M Blackifton

M^r Mein's acco' of Blackifton
5000 foot Pine p^lk
1000 f^t blk Walnt

Expects Orders to Masters to
take them on bord.

the ffrigate laid up in the
freshes.

? : the Panther skins

CXXXI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON ABUSES IN VIRGINIA.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

York River. July: 30th 1693:

I wrote you largely by ye Bangall. I haue provided 5000
foot of pine Boards according to yr Directions ready to be
shipp^d off when I haue advife vpon what ship bound to Brif-
toll

toll to putt them aboard which must be agreed in Eng^d but one ship will not take them all aboard because they will take vp too much Room. the Black walnutt plank is in Potomack River. I spend my money & my tyme most vnprofitably here. Its not in my power to rectifye the great abuses in trade the Collect^{rs} Regarding more their own fees then their Ma^{ties} Interest & care not how the ship or M^r be qualified provided they either giue security in the Country which they discharg by a false Certificate or produce a forged Certificate to them that they haue giuen security in Eng^d some of both sorts I haue by me. I beleiue it for their Ma^{ties} seruice that I come home to represent these matters that other methods may be taken. otherwise their Ma^{ties} will continue to loose aboue 4000^{lb} yearly. I sent you in ye Bengall a Gen^{ll} Account of money & tobacco due to their Ma^{ties} etc: amounting to 2429^{lb} 16:8. & this yeare from y^e Collectors of Virginia onely in tobacco, 37868^{lb} & in money 56: 7: 4^d & so much the Comptrou receiues for doing nothing. if I had sitt still I had saved my money & many a troublesome Journey & perhaps to as much purpose but thats not my fault I haue done my duty faithfully I am very ill at the writing hereof. S^r Edm^d Andros has a melancholy tyme of it. liues with good husbandry at great expence. my humble seruice to M^r Povey & Mr Chaplin I am s^r

Your most obliged humble ser^t

ED RANDOLPH

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble} M^r Blathwayt
at Whitehall:
By the Potomack Merc^t

[*Endorsed*]

[*Endorsed*]

Virginia

30 July 93

From M^r RandolphRec^d 25 Sept 93

5000 ft pine plk ready
 shippers must be hird in Eng^{ld}
 securityes discharged by false certificates
 the Kg looses 4000 yearly
 he thinks it for y^e Ks service to come for Eng^{ld}
 £2429 due from ye Coll^{rs}

CXXXII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT AFTER BLACKISTON'S DEATH.

*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*S^r:James Town : Oct: 30th: 1693.

Your letters I haue receiued which I hope to giue a more perticuler anfwere too . but am Just now come heither from Carolina . & before I had tyme to looke about me I had an Expreffe from Maryland advising me that M^r Blackiston dyed ye 22 instant. I am now taking leaue of his Excell: & preparing to go theither . & had been there sooner but I stayed to profecute an illegall Trader here in James Town which some tyme since I ordred to be seized in Potomack:

I find tho his Excell recommended with all care and regard to their Ma^{ties} service to the Affsembly their passing y^e two acts for prohibiting Bulke Tobacco to be shipped Off: & setling towns . the house of Burgeffes haue passd their votes ag^t them both: his Excell. will not giue ouer nor be wanting in any thing but they are full of Conceit & fancy themfelues as great as the H: of Commons in Eng^d

All

All care has been taken by his Excell & myfelfe to gett fome Red Ceder for Durham: & when euer any Bristoll Masters are agreed with to take it aboard It's ready for them. there is but one in this Colony & fo fmall as not to take any quantity aboard. the last fleet of Bristoll men would not meddle with any. nor can I poffibly haue it done here till you fend me an order vpon any one to do it.

I haue been very fick euer fince ye 20th of July: but haue at no tyme kept my bed whenever their Ma^{ties} fervice required my attendance. riding from one part of this Colony to another: when fcarce able to fitt my horfe. I haue a great weaknes in my left arme but new matter arifing fpurrs me on to very chargable Journeys: & not one penny advantage: when Mr Mein at Barbados & Mr Brookes at New york haue their Eafe & 5 or 600^{lb} a yeare at leaft to fupport them. I hope in tyme to receiue the benefitt of my hard fervices not at home but a recompense out of what money I faue out of the fire. my next will be from Maryland: . all happines attend the Rulers of the plantation Office. & of all the American Plantation Office. Certainly I had made a vifitt to the Bath for recouery of my limbs had I gott all the Black walnutt plank & Ceder for Durham & Shepden well fhippd off. with my hearty prayers for a happy meeting Once more I am s^r

your humble fer^t

ED RANDOLPH:

My humble fervice to M^r Povey

[*Addressed*] ffor their Ma^{ties} speciall fervice
 To the Hon^{ble}
 M^r Blathwayt
 at Whitehall

Virginia 30 Oct: 1693
From M Randolph

[*Endorsed*]

[*Endorsed*]

Virginia

30 Oct: 93

From M^r RandolphRec^d 19 Feb. 169 $\frac{3}{4}$ & y^e EnclofsRec^d 19 Feb: 169 $\frac{3}{4}$ Red Cedar ready for Durh'm
if ships may be sent for it

CXXXIII.

EXTRACT FROM GRAHAM'S LETTER ENCLOSED.

abstract from M^r Grahams letter to me dated N: york:

Oct: 11: 1693

. . . his Excell: our Gon^r returned on the 6th instant wthout reducing the obstinate poeple of Connecticott vnto obedience to their Ma^{ties} Commiſſion⁴³⁴ they poſitiuely deniing the leaſt Conformity. which in probability will be ill reſented at home. & may much darken the Appearance of their Agent. Maj^r Gen^l Jo. ffitts Winthrop. who they haue ſent home by the Maſts ſhips which are reported to haue ſayld y^e laſt weeke. etc:

J: Graham.

vpon a report onely of the Gom^t of Connecticott ſtanding in oppoſition to their Ma^{ties} Commands to Gon^r ffletcher & ſending Jō. Winthrop to be their Agent⁴³⁵: I gaue M^r Southwell

⁴⁸⁴ For a full account of this moſt undignified diſpute, which culminated in Fletcher's throwing one Connecticut deputy downſtairs, ſee Fletcher's letter to Blathwayt of 30th October, 1693, with its nineteen encloſures (*Calendar of State Papers, America and Weſt Indies*, 1693, no. 649, 650).

⁴⁸⁵ Winthrop was partially ſucceſſful in his miſſion, getting the quota of troops from Connecticut fixed at 120 only; but theſe were to be under the orders of the Governor of New York (*Calendar of State Papers, America and Weſt Indies*, 1693, no. 1022, etc.).

Southwell a Character of him & his qualifications to which pray be referrd: but he will be with you long before this comes to y^r Hands with Gon^r ffletche[rs] Report to Their Ma^{ties} he is a great coward & Hopes to be made therefore Gon^r of that Colony. as his Neighbour S: W: P: they

a wooden sword

both deferue a ~~whipping post~~ rather than to be honoured beyond their meritt.

[*Endorsed*]

1693

M Randolph: Extract of

M^r Graham; letter ab^t Connecticot

Rec^d 28 Mar: 169

CXXXIV.

RANDOLPH TO POVEY ON THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r:

Jamestown No^{ber} 2: 1693

I haue receiued the favour of your two letters . of the 20th ffebruary 92 : & y^e 12 of May 93 : for which I heartily thank you & for y^r extraordinary care to promote my Interest with y^e Comm^{rs} for the Prizes: S^r Robert Langhly if he be still in the Commiffion will do me all juft favour & feruice being my perticuler freind. he will remember our acquaintance was made at y^e B^p of S^t Afaphs: ⁴³⁶ I find Coll Copley was very troublefome in England & made a great Buftle onely to gratifye his pride & ambition . but he is gone & I hope a better

⁴³⁶ Lloyd, Bifhop of St. Afaph, had been one of the feven who dared to op-
pofe James II. in the matter of the

Declaration of Indulgence. Unlike
moft of the others, he did not fcrupe
to take the oaths to William and Mary.

better will fucceed in y^e Gom^t & aboue 3 dayes ago I had an Expresse from Maryland advising the death of Nehemiah Blackifton I am posting ouer to see what may be gott to satisfie his Debt of aboue 2000^{lb} to their Ma^{ties} and also will take Platers account & send it ouer to your Office from thence: The assembly are sitting at the first dash the house of Burgeffes voted ag^t passing two Bills . that for prohibiting the shipping off tobacco in Bulk: & the other to appoint townes according to the Methods laid down in the severall Reports of ye Comm^{rs} of the Customs: if they may not do as they please in Euerything they will do iust nothing. But his Excell: keepes all Euen & quiett: here & in Maryland⁴³⁷ where vpon the first notice of the Death of that Gon^t Nehemiah was raising men. Code & a party sett S^r Thō: Laurance at liberty & would place him in the Gom^t & it would haue made a great disturbance in ye Province: but neither of them were made cheife: which Blackifton could by no meanes Endure & soo dyed.

God has taken away my Enemys & you will haue the whole intregue discouered. about a fortnight ago I went to Carolina for the Red Ceder: I never had any directions what quantity to procure but I hope to gett 10 Tons [for] M^r Blathwayt & M^r Chaplins houses: & haue it brought into James River. Now I can engage in nothing further in regard Its not in my power to gett any M^r to take it aboard which is in M^r Blathwayts & your way to accomplish with
Ease

⁴³⁷ According to the editors of the *Maryland Archives* (Vol. XX. *Introduction*), Andros was really exceeding the terms of his commission, which empowered him to act in Maryland in case

of Copley's absence, and Nicholson's death, whereas the contrary had happened; but there could be no doubt as to the necessity of his action.

Eafe by the affiftance of Mr Henley before the lift of fhips for Bristoll is determined : It would do well to agree with one fhip for Mr Blathwayts things . & another for Mr Chaplin Ceder and black Walnutt : which I cannot gett sawen. it muft be ftowd in the Hold vnleffe you agree with the Mr^s for another Birth.

I haue been very fick euer fince the 20 of July laft . and am not well now. Certainly had I fettled affairs in Maryland I would accompany Mr Sherwood to come for my health . being very weak & much fallen away in my body : but I cannot looke Mr Blathwayt nor Mr Chaplin in the face till I haue fhipd off their Tymber.

there are 500 ffoot of very good pine plank fawen 1 : inch & halfe thick & about 18 foot long & 12 or 14 inches broad they were fawen laft yeare the better for feruice : if they muft be fent a veffell muft be ordred to take them aboard they lye at the Eaftern fhore . at Coll Scarburgh's landing & muft be carried ouer the Bay to fome of the Rivers on this fide : in a floop. my haft to Maryland & ilnes prevents my Enlarging befides my freind Mr Sherwood will waite vpon you and giue you a moft perticuler account of the ftate of this Country. S^r I congratalate their Ma^{ties} favour to you & question not but its a faire ftap to fomething better in tyme : & remaine

if a fmaller quantity your moft obliged humble feru^t
of Ceder will ferue Ed RANDOLPH
turn . I muft know it & will putt no more aboard then
ordred.

[*Addressed*] To John Povey
efq³

[*Endorsed*]

[*Endorsed*] Virg^a Nov: 2: 1693
 From M^r Randolph
 Rec^d 28 Mar 94
 He wants directions re red
 Cedar to fend over 500 ft
 provided 18 foot long inch
 & $\frac{1}{2}$ thick 12 or 14 br^d

CXXXIV A.

NOTE ON THE FRAGMENTS OF A PARTIALLY DESTROYED
LETTER IN THE BLATHWAYT COLLECTION.

Between the letters of 2d November, and 3d December, 1693, there was a long one dated from James Town later in November, of which only fragments remain. They relate to the death of Copley and Blakiston, to the misconduct of various collectors, and Randolph's own complaints as to the smallness of his income, as compared with that of Patrick Mein who received £365 a year, while Chidley Brooke's place was said to be worth £700. He appeals to Chaplin and Sherwood to support his account of his services. There are further references to the new College, and to their 'Majesties' bounty towards it. Chilton is (apparently) referred to as having "left this country to settle in England." Randolph is sending home two panthers' skins and some fruit "which I gathered off a great Tree." There is no formal address, but a simple endorsement "to the Hon^{ble} Mr Blathwayt."

There are also in the letter, allusions to the difficulties caused by Andros's lavish gifts out of the Maryland treasury,
 but

but so fragmentary as to afford little information. Similarly, a reference to the sale of tobacco in Boston lacks explanation, the context being destroyed. Lastly, Randolph's friend Graham appears to be recommended for the office held by Blackiston.

The State Papers contain no communication from Randolph of any date near this.

CXXXV.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON BLACKISTON'S AFFAIRS.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

S^t Maryes

Dec^r 3 1693

Sicknes prevented my waiting upon S^r Edm^d Andros when the feasonable [?] death of Coll Copley called his Excell: to take care of their Ma^{ties} interest and restore Peace and Justice to the too too much oppressed Inhabitants of the province. It was not long after his cheife Agent & Abetter in all his wicked designs Nehemiah Blackiston more by choise than duty followed to [] conference in the next world for both their departures their Creditours [] and most sensible manner of w^h not a few: and for considerable Sums [] That from Nehemiah of about 1800^{li} ster^s

I came to S^t Maryes the 20^t of No^r past. spent one day with my worthy [] & fellow sufferer S^r Tho: Laurence and the next day wee [] & his severall offices a vigile. But being besides one of the
Receivers

Receivers of their Ma^{ties} Revennue in this province and Collector of their Ma^{ties} Customs and Navall officer: places no way convenient to be Entrusted to the manage of A Georg Plater: he was by Coll: Copley made Attorney Gen^l certainly instead of a better man and is so continued: that morning I went to his house matters of State called him to attend the Presid^t and Councill distant about 100 miles from Patuxent & the Councillours choosng rather to follow the busines of their plantations before the publick, forgott or refused to be present. So that nothing or little to purpose was done. However Mr Attorney was absent 14 dayes. At his return I first entred upon the busines of the Office, which he befor did not indifferently understand but now is much worse for every thing of [] was in confusion. in tyme I brought him to a sence of his duty in that office, & whilst I was with him he Entred a ship or two regularly. I discourfd him on the quality of Receiver etc: and desired to see his books, and what method he took to enable him to discharg that office. his accounts were very confused without dates or perticulers & kept in Groffe: neither in all the tyme since the firste of his commission has he informed himselfe of the fines [] etc: due to be paid and received in the severall Countyes of this province. His cheife care was to get enough in his hands to pay him-himselfe his salary of [] a yeere. I carried with me a copy of the accounts directed to Mr [] in generall that he has paid severall fums of money out of ye 15^d p hog^d on tobacco [] Gov^r Copley, but produced no receites. That [] answer sated him. So that pretense was continued []

Andros

Andros was here. Mr Tench []
 himfelfe with about 150^{li} [] that
 Mr Plater hath made himfelfe debtor to their Ma^{ties} about
 2 or 300^{li} but upon what branch of their Ma^{ties} Revennue
 I [] not. I find him fo full of bufines to dif-
 patch the fhips for England & yett fo unprepared to draw
 any fort of account in what relates to his Office of Re-
 ceiver that he has defired me to write you in his excufe :
 and prays longer tyme to [] his [] Wee
 obliged Mr Plater to give 2000^{li} bond for his faithfull dif-
 charg of that Office. He and Mr I [] his Security their
 debts being paid are not worth a groat.

The expectation of a Gov^r from England fufpends my rec-
 ommending any perfon for [] employm^t there being
 at Pattuxent Mr Henry Lord Gent. of a []
 eftate for whom refponfable perfons in London will [].
 he is a proteftant and well acquainted with the bufines of
 trade. Befides him there are not many of [] be-
 fides Papifts and Quakers. I went laft weeke to Mr Black-
 ifton's houfe taking with me Mr [] whom S^r Edmund
 had made Commiff [] wee difcourfd the
 widdow about her hufbands accounts and defired to fee his
 papers which fhe refused till [] letters of
 Adminiftration.⁴³⁸ I find from our difcourfe that her huf-
 band kept no books but all in loofe papers. She tells me
 [] her husband was obftructed re-
 ceiving

⁴³⁸ On 13th October, 1694, the Coun-
 cil of Maryland had to make an order
 empowering Randolph and Plater to go
 to Mrs. Blackifton's houfe, and if necef-

fary break open her furniture to find
 papers referring to their Majefties' fer-
 vices (*Maryland Archives*, Vol. XX.
 p. 131).

ceiving any duty upon liquor : nor did he receive the duty of 15^d p hog^d upon tobacco [] Mr [] was convinced [twas done?] by ye Gov^{rs} great Influence upon Mr Blackiston and Mr Plater. besides the sum of 1400^{li} due to their Ma^{ties} upon the duty of one penny p pound received by Mr Blackiston I daily discover more and it now amounts to above 1500^{li} but his estate will pay but little of it. And could the whole [] received as much more. Upon that account his friends call for an abatement of one half penny p pound due to him as Collector of that Duty. I demand a full and just account upon Oath [] I have exhibited my charg in the [] court and thereby stop paying any of Gov^r Copley or Mr Blackiston's [] indebted to Mr Blackiston for their Ma^{ties} third part of a ship.

[The remainder is illegible through damp; but it is possible to conjecture, from the ends of the lines which are preserved, that Randolph argues at length against the claim of Blackiston's Executors for abatement, and concludes by expressing his hope of speedily returning to England. The signature is fairly legible.]

[*Endorsed*]

Maryland 3 Dec. 1693

From M^r Randolph

Rec^d 28 Mar. 94

[Further endorsement indecipherable]

CXXXVI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE AFFAIRS OF
MARYLAND.*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*S^rS^t Maryes May 18 : 94 :

By ye ship Jane of Plym^o Robert Edgcomb . M^r I sent you my letters of y^e 25 of Aprill past from James T: & a Copy thereof by y^e Pinke Dive Dapper of Biddiford Tho: Conhall M^r representing that at a tryall of a ship of Topsham Tho Carpenter M^r at y^e Gen^{ll} court on y^e 15 of Oct: last at James T: vpon my Information that she had brought a great parcell of European Goods directly from N: foundland^x 4 of the Collectors of y^e Customs fate Judges vpon the Bench the modest Gen^d were mute: & had not one word to say or one question to aske on their Ma^{ties} behalfe . tho at no tyme silent in matters of smaller Concern. the truth of it is, their Brother collector Ralfe Wormeleys Honour lay at stake, for if the vessell were condemned t'would argue either his Connivance at y^e M^r or his ignorance in the Acts of trade because he did not seize her at the tyme of her Entry: but they to come off without scratched faces left all to the jury . who, tho' Carpenter did not make appeare that those goods were first taken aboard his ship in some port of Eng^d as the law requires . yet they (kind men tender also of his Hon^{rs} credit) found ag^t their Ma^{ties} it has cost me aboue 15^{ll} charges in
feizing

^x not first taken aboard his ship in Eng^d

feizing & profecuting that ship: I was some tyme before told by one of y^e Collectors, That t'was better to be quiett & not disturb the trade of the country: for it would be to no purpose which if I had done I had saved aboue 150^l this is done to support illegall trade & to tire me out I haue left Virginia & am come heither not questioning but when Gon^r Nicholson arriues I shall giue a good account of all things here in all respects. I haue taken care that 10 tons of Ceder bought in North Carolina when I was there last yeare will with S^r Edm^d Andros Directions be putt aboard a Bristoll man so soon as it is brought from thence to James R: ordred too be done by the End of March last. the one halfe for you & as much for M^r Chaplin. M^r Plater has not as yet notwithstanding all his promises done anything to his accounts as Receiuer. but when Gon^r Nicholson is come to the province, I will not be longer delayed. the truth is he knows not what account to make for y^e Money he has paid Gon^r Copley vpon his own Order; nor has he taken care to receiue one penny of the many fines due to their Ma^{ties} in all the Countyes in Maryland. I haue sent to the Clerks of all y^e County courts to send me a list of all fines & other dues etc: & to the sheriffs for what they haue Collected vpon those fines. & thereby shall charg him with Articles which he has forgott or is unwilling should be discovered. I haue giuen in my charg ag^t M^r Blackistons estate to y^e Commissaryes Court that amounts to aboue 1452^l But what he has receiued since commiffionated by y^e Lords of the treasury to that Office I cannot find out, in regard Coll. Copley & he confounded all matters between them & they being dead Coll Copley & M^r Blackistons accounts & estates

estates are concealed . which will be a difficult thing to find out.

I tooke leaue of S^r Edm^d Andros y^e 27 of Aprill, hauing first asked his Excell: what tyme he intended to be at S^t Maryes but he would make me no answere to it. I went round by the Bay & had a tedious & dangerous passage to Maryland. he arrived the 1 instant the second restored s^r thomas Laurance to be Presid^t & Judge of ye Provinciall court: he was very easye with the Councill & to M^r Plater y^e Atturney Gen^l they gaue him 500^l & he gaue his order for 150^l to Coll Greenbery late presid^t for doing nothing . & then returnd to virginia: I am told by John Perry our post whom S^r Edm^d Andros sent from hence to N: york to Coll ffletcher with bills of Exchang for a Considerable sum of money to be paid for defence of Albany etc: ag^t y^e french . that Coll ffletcher has sent to this province for greater supplies: & as Perry tells me to S^r Edm^d Andros to raise & send him 200 men out of Virginia who cannot be spared there being great apprehensions that the 5 Nations of Indians hauing by some way or other deserted the interest of y^e English Nation may fall vpon the Western Plantations in those southern Gom^{ts} Its conjectured if that Quota be answered by stout Bills of Exchange t'will satisfie the occasion as well. En quantum lucri nobis tulit Albany bellum to which if Coll Nicholson comes by land from N: york as tis said he intends will speake more perticularly vpon certaine advise from N: Eng^d that a Combination in trade is managed by some in Boston vpon a Great Bank of Money advanced by Merc^{ts} in Glascow to build & freight vessells to purchase their lodings of tobacco in those plantations to be carried to Scotland directly

directly. I was vnwilling wholly to depend vpon y^e care of their Hon^{rs} the Collectors in virginia : & therefore I searched them out whereeuer they were entred & went aboard most of them to my very great charg & no profit : where I mett with English or Irish men Masters but not worth a groat : and also one Scotchman y^e merçt at least in every vessell who had the sole dispoſall of the cargo & purchasing tobacco . a list of which I haue ſent to y^e Custome house, a copy whereof I haue incloſed to you . & haue diſcourſd very largely of theſe matters in my letters of this date to y^e Comm^{rs} of their Ma^{ties} Customs : ſuch of them as were in Maryland hearing of Coll Nicholſons coming theither gott their cleerings from M^r Plater contrary to my expreſſe orders that he ſhould clear none till I was ſatiſſied in their ſecurities : but he was a great gainer by it : they not daring to ſtay till the Gon^r came into y^e Province. Newcaſtle in Penſilvania has droue a cunning trade with Scotch & New Eng^d men who continue to import great quantyes of Goods from Scotland & make their returns in tobacco carried ouerland from Maryl^d to Delaware. all has not been done regularly in N: york : I haue great Complaints from M^r Brenton y^e Boſtoners favourite. I am going to thoſe places ſo ſoon as I haue ſeen Coll Nicholſon & receiued your Hon^{rs} commands. I ſhall be glad to heare that all y^r little ones are in health. I think I muſt make a ſtep to Eng^d before I can adjuſt matters with the Hogon Mogon Collectors ⁴³⁹ in in virginia & in other places my humble ſeruice to M^r Povey
to

⁴³⁹ The proper ſpelling is “Hogen Mogen” : the word is a corruption of “Hogendmogendheiten” (their High Mightineſſes), the official title of the

States General of the United Provinces. It is therefore uſually and more properly applied to the Dutch.

to whom I write this also wishing him all health & happines
& am S^r

your most humble seru^t

ED RANDOLPH: /

The inclosed is what I can at present Collect out of M^r
Platers papers which he calls an account he is like the rest
in this province & will do nothing till forced to it tis all
without method & form & not a paper to vouch one Article
produced to me.

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
Mr Blathwayt

[*Endorsed*] Maryland
18 May 94
From M^r Randolph
Rec^d 13. Aug 94
Carpenter's ship tryed for brng
goods from Newfoundl^d cleared
in Virg^a

10 tuns of Cedar to be sent
to Bristoll for M^r Blath^d & M^r
Chaplin in March.

Plater has not accompted
nor Gathered in y^e fines

He has charged Blackiftons
Estate with £1452. Wh^t he
rec^d by Ord^r of y^e Tref^{ry} not
known. Coll Copley & he
confoundd acco^{ts}

S^r E: Andros restored S^r Tho
Lawrance & rec^d 500^l from y^e
Country: £150 given to Presi-
dent Greenberry

New York dem^{ds} 200 Men
 from Virg^a w^{ch} can^t be spared
 Acco' of Scotch traders in
 Maryl^d from N England
 The like in N Castle Dela-
 ware? & N York Comp^{ts} from
 Brenton.
 Going to New Eng^{ld}

CXXXVII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON AN INDIAN OUTBREAK.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r

Accomack in Virginia :
 July 3 : 1694 .

By the ship Virginia Merc^t of Plymouth William Gennis
 M^r I sent you a larg packett : which I hope is come safe to
 you : the Indians on the Northern part of Potomack are gott
 in a fort haue kild a man & are 300 strong. S^r Thomas
 Laurence sent an Expresse to S^r Edm^d Andros advising that
 some Indians belonging to Virginia are joined & tis feare
 more will soon come in to make a war vpon the Marylanders :
 in no Capacity to defend themselues . their Arms some Em-
 bezzled more vfeleffe . their Pouder weake for want of due
 care to order it & no quantity of shott to be found.

I came heither to enquire after a ship of Glascow which y^e
 Comm^{rs} of y^e Customs lately advised me of. I make many
 such voyages to little purpose : this is by Cap^t Crompton M^r
 of y^e Lyon of Liverpool whom I meet here being droue in
 by bad weather : Coll. Nicholson is much wanted in Maryland.

I am preparing for my Journey to N: Engd: my humble service to M^r Povey. I haue wrote largely to M^r Southwell to whom pray giue my humble service I am f^r

Your most obliged humble ser^t
my service to M^r Chaplin. ED RANDOLPH

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
Mr Blathwayt
at Whitehall:

by Cap^t Crompton M^r
of y^e ship Lyon of
Liverpool. /

[*Endorfed*] 3 July 1694
From M^r Randolph
Rec^d 14 Sept: 94

CXXXVIII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE DEFALCATIONS IN
MARYLAND.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Hon^d S^r

S^t Maryes. Aug^t 22 : 94 :

I haue receiued y^{rs} of y^e 20th of Aprill by Coll. Nicholfon & am much concernd' that you are pleased to charg me with neglect in procuring the Walnutt planke to be sent you to Bristoll . as I haue very often promised : there is no Credit to be giuen to what the Bristoll Merc^{ts} say : I know in hopes to gett out they will promise largely but I find them here vpon other

other terms. I am now going to Virginia where I hope the Black walnutt & y^e Ceder are shippd off from James River : Scott of Bristoll was this spring in Potomack my freind would haue Engaged him to take aboard 500 foot of Plank but he refused to do it vnlesse he were paid twice the value of it for freight : & would take in but a small parcell : I haue enough promised me & ready when ships come in : & had not Mr Chaplin engaged M^r Golley Mer^t in Bristoll to take his aboard it might haue lain & rott on the shore : Gon^l Nicholson arrived here the 26 : of July past he is receiued with a hearty welcome of the most of the Inhabitants . those of Gon^l Copleys party as well as they can he is obliging to all & will bring this province to a true & lasting settlement : he finds an Empty Treasury & a Militia without arms & Ammunition : an Order of Councill was directed to me & others to go to M^r Blackistons to see all the papers & to enquire how all the money he receiued vpon the 1^d p Hogg^d is disposed : I find no bookes or accounts are kept yet his executrix has the Confidence to expect 100^{ll} for his receiuers Office I se no reason why he or M^r Plater should receiue one penny for that seruice : this province is much in debt those ffees with your salary will be a charg vpon the Revennue . but I am assured by Gon^l Nicholson that he will encourage the settlem^t of yours : & to that end has appointed Plater to state his account & make it ready against the sitting of the Councill . which you may expect by the next shipping :⁴⁴⁰

Greenberry & Tench opposed for some tyme my being admitted

⁴⁴⁰ See the next letter.

mitted into ye Councill & produced the fame complaints they sent ouer ag^t me a yeare ago : I haue a vessell of Mr Tenches vnder feizure & now hope to haue my third part of her towards my charges about my trouble last yeare : One who calls himselfe Cap^t Henry Smith ⁴⁴¹ made a hearefay deposition ag^t me about 2 yeares ago before Coll Copley I then feized Smiths ship : but my Agent was not permitted to prosecute her : I haue lately feized her for the fame transgression he is gone home with New Complaints I hope in the meane tyme to gett one Moiety of the value of her & leaue him to continue his Charges ag^t me. I am going to Virginia from whence I shall giue you notice what occurs there. the 500^{ll} S^r Edm^d Andros had from this Gom^t will be vnder confideration next Councill. Gon^r Nicholson has told plater he must account for it : nor will y^e 150^{ll} allowed C : Greenberry be agreed to : with my humble service to M^r Povey I am S^r

your most obliged humble seru^t

ED RANDOLPH :

M^r Blathwayt.

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt

[*Endorsed*]

⁴⁴¹ The Deposition of Smith is printed *supra*, Vol. V. p. 94. It is the only one of the three charges brought against Randolph by Copley and his Council which deserves any consideration. It is, as he says, merely "hearefay"; and the Council of Maryland, when the charges were brought to their notice on

13th October, 1694, treated all three, though they came "under the seal of the Province of Pennsylvania," with small respect, and allowed Randolph to take his seat before making his Defence against them (*Maryland Archives*, Vol. XX. p. 155). For the charges generally, see the *Introduction*.

[*Endorsed*] Maryland

22 Aug : 1694

From M^r RandolphRec^d 5 Nov^r 94

He cann^t p^rvail with the Bristoll ships take in ye
Walnut tree plank : tho he now hopes they and the
cedar are shipt at James River

Coll Nicholson arrived y^e 26 July :

No Acco['] of Blackistons Managem^t of Revenue

The Revenue is much in debt but the Gon^r will
endea^v to settle your salary

Greenberry opposed his being of the Councill

He has two vessells under feizure

Coll Nicholson opposes S Edm^d Andros's having the
500 ord^d by the Councill

CXXXIX.

PLATER TO BLATHWAYT IN DEFENCE OF HIS CONDUCT.⁴⁴²*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*Honrd S^rPattuxant in Maryland December 18th 1694

I hope before this Comes to hand S^r Thomas Lawrence
will be safe arriued at London : (By Whome) as I intimated
to

⁴⁴² This is the letter promised in the preceding despatch of Randolph, and is alluded to in Plater's letter to the Lords of the Treasury of the same date (18th December), (*Treasury Papers*, Vol. XXXI. no. 8, p. 409). There are other similar letters in the Blathwayt correspondence but this is the most im-

portant. From other documents sent to the Treasury in 1695 (Vol. XXXIII. no. 52, p. 449), Plater seems to have had a real grievance against Andros for commandeering the revenues in his hands ; but he was plainly a master of apologetics.

to your Hon^r in my last I haue sent your Hon^r a state of the Reuenue by me Collected and Receiued for support of Gouvernem^t. I haue attested the same before his Excellency the Gouvernor and haue alsoe sent your Hon^r a receipt for the bills of Exchange Deliuered Gouverno^r Copley in his life time Attested by yo^r Hon^{rs} Depu^{ty} Edward Randolph Esq^r the receipt is more then the Reuenue of one shilling p^r hhd amounts to at the time of Gouverno^r Copleys Death But the true reason of that is because the Additionall Duty of 3^d p^r hhd to the Gouverno^r was included:—Gouverno^r Copley Dyed just upon the arriual of the last ffeete soe that the Reuenue within my Collection after the receipt of my Comission to be Receiuer and before his death did not amount in the whole to aboue 180^l sterl: I find by their Maj^{ties} Royall Instructions to him giuen one fourth part of the Reuenue was referued for the support of Armes and Amunition But was wholly a stranger thereto till after his death. I am blamed for payment of five hundred pounds to S^r Edmond Andros And M^r Randolph seemes to obstruct the allowance of that article I assure your Hon^r I thought my selfe safe therein: His Comission for the Gouvernem^t being by the Councill allowed good and I haueing his warrant together with an order of Councill for the payment of the same: And had the whole Reuenue within my Collection beene Comanded out of my hands by the same Authority: and on the same Acco^t I Cannot see how I Could haue euaded the payment thereof soe hope I shall receiue noe Injury theirby: I Cannot tell whether the forme of my acco^t be soe exact as your Hon^r may expect. but what amiss shall be emended upon your Hon^{rs} intimation theireof I yesterday deliuered his
Excellency

Excellency the Gouverno^r a state of the Reuenue since the departure of s^r Edmond Andros (uiz^t) from the 10th day of May last to the 10th day of this Instant Dece^r. By the fleet from hence your Hon^r may expect ann addition^l state of the Reuenue soe from time to time persuant to the tennor of your Hon^{rs} Instructions a list of the fynes and forfeitures within this Prouince I haue now sent out to each Respective County to be Collected and shall take Care to haue his Excellency the Gouverno^{rs} Directions in the Disposal thereof Ann Account of which your Hon^r will receiue by the fleete together with the sales of the Prize sugar intimated in my last There is is noe additionall duty raised to their Maj^{ties} by the late Affem- bly for support of Governm^t but they haue laid a Duty upon Rume and Beere imported as alsoe upon ffurrs Skins &c and Porke exported and the Nauall Officers are by Act of Affem- bly appointed to Collect the same and to render acco^t thereof to their Treasurers The Duty of 3^d p^{cent} on Tobacco shipped out of this Prouince is alsoe by the Affemby Giuen to his Excellency Gouverno^r Nicholson The whole Body of y^e laws are sent for England for their Maj^{ties} Royall approbation By the encouragment of M^r Randolph I made Bould to send your Hon^r a ffox But am ffearfull the Meanes of the present may render it unacceptable I should think my selfe higly honored Could I be seruiceable to your Hon^r here who am your

Hon^{rs} most obedient & ffaithfull Humble seru^t

GEORGE PLATER

[*Addressed*]

[*Addressed*]

To

The Right Hon^{ble} William Blathwayte

Esq Auditor And Suruey^r Gen^{ll}

of Their Maj^{ties} Reuenues of

America &^c at

Humbly p^rsented

Whitehall

[*Endorsed*]

18 Dec: 1694

From M^r Plater

Collect^r of Maryland,

state of the Revenu sent by s^r Tho Lawrence

an acc^t from May to Dec retn^d to y^e Gov^r

By the Next an acco^t of the fines

and of the Prize fugar

CXL.

VESSELS SEIZED BY

Board of Trade,

A LIST OF ILLEGALL TRADERS LOADING TOBACCO & CLEERD BY
IN THE YEARES

Name	Nature	whence	by whom Entred	in what Destrict	M ^{rs} names
Elizabeth	Pink	Berwick	Cott. Griffin	South Potomack	John Edmeston
Return	Ketch	N: Eng ^d	Ralfe Wormeley	Rappahañn	Rob ^t Woodbery
Salisbury	Ketch	N: Eng ^d	Cott. Griffin	S. Potomack	Step. Laurance
Antelope	ship	N: Eng ^d	Georg Plater	Patuxent	Caleb Hubert
Adventure	Brigant	N: Eng ^d	Phill. Clark	N: Potomack	Henry Hill
Mary	ship	N: Eng ^d	Georg Plater	Patuxent	Xpher Monke
Vnity	Pinke	N: Castle	Georg Layfeild	Pocomoke	John Reid
Elizabeth	Bark	N: Eng ^d	Phill. Clark	N: Potomack	James Pitts
.	ship	N: Eng ^d	Charles Scarburgh	Accomack	Andrew Waker
Catharine	Pink	N: Eng ^d	Georg Plater	Patuxent	Jō Price
Elizabeth	Bark	Belfast	Phill Clark	N: Potomack	Rob ^t Arthur
Richard	. . .	White hauen	G. Layfeild	Pocomoke	Eraasmus Lower
Joseph & Daniell		Barbados	Georg Layfeild	Pocomoke	Jō. Harrifon

CXL.

RANDOLPH. 1693-1694.

Virginia, Vol. V. no. 56.THE OFFICERS IN THE SEVERALL DESTRICTS IN VIRGINIA & MARYLAND
1693 : 1694:

Scotch Merçts name	Loading inwards	by whom cleerd	when	to what place	wheither gone
John Arnott	Rum Suger Scotch G:	feized July 93	cleerd at	Court 94 Rink	& loading Rotten
Adam Montgomery	Rum Suger etc	Ralfe Wormeley	94	Scotland directly
Jō Handerson	Rum Scotch Goods	Cott. Griffin	94	Scotland
Jō Magoon	1 Rum Suger	Georg Plater	94	Bewmaris	Scotland directly
. . Cambell					
Sampson Duer	Rum Suger	Georg Plater	94	New Castle	Quvre
. . . . Houtes	Rum Suger	Georg Plater	94	N: Eng ^d	Holland
Poke Calwell	Scotch Linnen	Georg Layfeild	94	Whitehauen	Scotland
Jō. Winstor	Rum Suger	Georg Plater	94	New Eng ^d	Scotland
Benj. Wadlin	Rum Suger	Charles Scarburgh	94	New Castle	quvre
Gustavus Hamiton	Rum Suger etc	Georg Plater	94	New Eng ^d	Scotland
Rob ^t . Arthur	Scotch Linnen	Georg Plater	94	Bewmaris	Scotland
.	Scotch Cargo	Georg Layfeild	93	Whitehauen	Scotland
.	Rum Suger	Georg Layfeild	93	Whitehauen	Scotland

[Endorsed]

List of Illegall traders
in Virginia & Maryld
in 1693 & 1694Rec^d 13 Aug 94
frō M RandolphB. B.
P. 25

CXLI.

CXLI.

RANDOLPH'S COMPLAINT OF THE SCOTTISH INDIA COMPANY.

*Colonial Entry Book, Vol. C. p. 352.*To the Hon^{ble} Comiff^{rs} of the CustomesMay it please your Hon^{rs}

In my paper of Proposals to Suppress the illegall Trade in the Tobacco Plantations, w^{ch} has been carried on from thence directly to Scotland for many Years, I have shewn from whence it has so greatly prevailed and laid down proper methods for preventing thereof for the future a Copy whereof is here unto annexed, which will be Effectually Remedied if they were formed into an Act of Parliam^t to be passed this Session and Entituled . An Act for preventing Frauds and Regulating abuses in the Plantation Trade, as is the Act of 14th Car 2^d for England. And that the Commanders of his Majesties Ships of Warr during their Stay in the Country, may be Order^d to Receive Instructions from this Board in what may concerne the care of the Trade and Navigation to and from those Plantations, and to be aiding & assisting to the Officers of his Majest^{ys} Customes in the Execution of their Dutys.

I now lay before your Hon^{rs} an Accompt of the present State of his Majest^{ys} Colonies and Provinces upon the North Coast of America, in relation to a Scotch Act⁴⁴³ which is lately past, In which Act under under pretence of Erecting an East India Company in y^e Kingdome, They do (p: 2^d) Engage

⁴⁴³ This is the famous Act of 26th June, 1695, by which the Darien Company, known as the "Company of Scotland trading to Africa and the Indies," was established. It will be noted that it was not till after the expedition had

failed (25th July, 1698) that its real destination on the Isthmus was known. The English Board of Trade had before then (10th September, 1697) suggested the seizure of an island off the coast of Darien.

Engage themselves wth Great Sums of Money in an American Trade, a Trade which has already for Severall Years been carried on by Scotchmen under pretence of being Persons born within the allegiance of his Majesty, as by the Act of 12 Car 2^d. They claim liberty to do, and altho in the Act of the 14th of the said King, only English, Irish and Subjects in the Plantations are to be accounted English, as to the Navigating of Ships, Yet they take on them to come from Scotland under the notion of Supra-Cargos and Merchants and feldome faile of Counterfeit Masters.

In the 4th page they have liberty to Plant Colonies &c in or upon places not Inhabited, and p. 5th to make & conclude Treaties of Peace and Commerce with the Gov^{rs} and Proprietors, paying only to his Maj^{ty} out of Scotland the Yearly ackknowledgem^t of one h^h^d of Tobacco. And altho they forbid all other Scotts then those of their Company to touch on any Plantations which they shall acquire on pains of confiscation yet they allow all Such Scotts to trade in Tobacco & Sugar elsewhere that is to say amongst the English) They paying for what they so bring home Such duties as are now Establisht in Scotland.

By all which it may be presumed how they project to let themselves into the Trade of all his Majesties Plantations, and tis Probable they meditate either the Purchasing a Settle^m^t in one of the 3 Lower Countys of New Castle Kent or Suffex, on the Southern Shore of Delaware bay as being no part or Parcell of the Land Granted to M^r Pen in his Province of Pensilvania or in some one or more Islands nigh the Continent, by which Expedient if acquired they might in a short time make a Staple, not only of all Sorts of European Manufactures but also of the Enumerated Plantation Commodities

modities even as it is this day practiced with great abuse at the small Dutch Island of Carasaw.

Wherefore for prevention of so great a mischief to England tis humbly proposed

1^t That the South part of Carolina and all the Bahama Islands be put under his Maj^{ty}s imediate Authority.

2 That North Carolina be annexed and put und^r the Care and Inspection of his Maj^{ty}s Govern^r of Virg^a thereby to prevent the Shipping off the Merchantable Tobacco growing in the Southern part of y^t Teritory by the Inlets of Corrituck and Roanoak.

3. That the 3 lower Counties of New Castle Kent and Suffex aforefaid, lying upon the Southern shore of Delaware Bay, be annexed to his Majesties Government in Maryland, which will likewise prevent the Shipping off the Merchantable Tobacco growing at the head of Chesepeek bay near Bohemia and Saffafras Rivers into Appaquimine River in Delaware Bay, As also the Importing European Goods by that passage to Maryland both which Evills have been but too much practiced.

4. That the Province of West Jerfey be annexed to the Government of the Province of Pensilvania, and an active Gov^r there appointed, such a one as is qualified to uphold the Act of Trade, for as things now hang, the Charge to mainteyn able Offic^{rs} on both Sides the Bay, from Bredlington in West Jerfey to Borekill in Suffex County nigh Cape hen-Lopen with men and Boats &c will not be defrayed for 800th a Year, for the Trade of that River being now Carried on by Scotch men & Privateers Inhabitants in Pensilvania, East & West Jerfey which lys between Maryland and New York (in the very Center of Trade and businefs) all is Exposed and lys open to Traders from all places and can not be
 secured

secured but by a great charge or very Regular Government.

5. That the Province of East Jersey be annexed to his Majesties Government in the Province of New York as it hath been formerly and in like Manner the Colony of Connecticut, for this would wholly prevent the Great Importation of European Goods too freq^{ly} made even by Countenance of those two Colonys.

6. That the Colonies of Rhode Island now under no regular Government be as formerly joyned to his Majestys Government in the Province of the Maffachusetts Bay in New England.

7. That no Projection Planter or other person whatsoever, presume to alien or Transfer any Island Plantation &c To any Scotch Agent Factor or other Forreigner whatsoever under the Penalty of high Treason, the whole Tract from 32 to 44 being his Majesties Dominion and anexed to the Crown of England.

But for asmuch a[s] Severall of the Plantations here under mentioned, have Proprietors and Owners by Lett^{rs} Pattents & some small Colonys are Establisht by Charters where the persons concerned may not apprehend the danger that is threatned by the new Law in Scottd and So refuse to Conforme to what in that Consideration only is hereby humbly proposd, as to the annexing of Governments, yet in point of Securing to England all the benefitts of the Plantation Trade, To which by Law they Stand bound, I think where any Shall refuse in this time of danger to accept his Majesties Government — They should be obliged both to accept and Mainteyn Such Officers as may be needfull to preserve the Trade to England and the Deputys to his Majesty.

All which is humbly Submitted by

ED: RANDOLPH. S: G:

Decemb^r 7th 1695

CXLII.

HEDGES'S OPINION ON A MEMORIAL OF RANDOLPH.

Board of Trade, Plantations General, Vol. II. no. 90.

May it please your Lordships

In humble Obedience to your Lordship's Order of the 28th of January last, requiring my opinion whether the Privateers, mentioned in the Extract of a Report from the Commissioners of the Customs upon M^r. Randolph's Memoriall may not be treated as Pirates; or how they are otherwise to be proceeded with, I have considered thereof, and having also received some further Informations, from M^r. Randolph, concerning the Persons therein called Privateers, I humbly conceive that they may be proceeded against and treated as Pirates; they having as I am informed no Commission from any Prince or State, Which I most humbly Submitt to your Lordship's great Judgement.

C. HEDGES

Febr. 7

1695

[*Endorsed*] Judge of y^e Admiraltys
Report about proceeding
ag^t Privateers or Free booters
in y^e West Indies as Pirates.

Rec^d 8^o Feb^{ry} 95

Read 17 Feb: 1695

B: G:

P: 29

Entrd Plant Gen^{ll} Vol 2^d

Fol. 374

This decision should be appended to Randolph's Memorial, printed *supra*, Vol. V. p. 124.

CXLIII.

CXLIII.

COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION OF RANDOLPH.

Board of Trade Journal, Vol. VIII. p. 166.

At the Committee of Trade and Plantations
At the Council Chamber at Whitehall
Munday y^e 17th of Febr. 1695.

Present.

L ^d Arch Bp. of Canterbury	Earl of Stanford
Earl of Bridgwater	S ^r Henry Goodrick
M ^r Smith	

.
Upon Reading a Mem^l from M^r Randolph Survey^r. Gen-
erall of y^e Customes upon y^e North Coasts of America their
Lo^{ps} agree to offer their opinion that M^r Randolph having
behaved himself with great care and diligence in discharge
of his trust is very deserving of his Ma^{ty}'s favour for some fit-
ting encouragement, and that he be Recomend^d to y^e L^{ds}
Comm^{rs} of y^e Trade accordingly

CXLIV.

RANDOLPH'S MEMORIAL ON NAVAL STORES IN THE COLONIES.

Board of Trade, Plantations General, Vol. IV. no. 4.

A Discourse how to render the Plantations more benefi-
ciall & Advantageous to this Kingdom. There being great
number Pine and Cyprus Trees Growing in the Colonies &
Provinces upon the Continent of America, nigh Navigable
Rivers

Rivers fitt for Yards and Bowspritts of the largest Dimensions, and Oaken Timber for Planks and Building Ships & also, that Pitch Tarr Rozin Hemp and Flax, are already made and Growe there, And that the Materialls for making Salt Petre are found there in great Plenty, & may be brought from thence to England.

The Wealth and Security of this Kingdome has all along depend'ed upon the Trade and Navigation thereof, But the Mafts and Tymber for Building Shipps, as also all other Navall Stores of Pitch Tarr, Rozin, Hemp Flax and Salt Petre, being, (through a long consumption) become very deare and Scarce Comodities, are not to be had from the Neighbouring Countreyes but at Excessive Rates and Prices, and that in times of Peace with those Kingdomes only, So that upon Suddain Rupture eithe with Sweden or Denmarke England is Debarred of that Trade, And her Navigation in danger to be lost unless supplied with those Comodities from France or Holland but not without Difficulty, and alwayes upon Rates proportionable to her Necessity and want thereof.

Our present Trade and Commerce with the Swede and Dane, makes greatly for their advantage. Our Merchants and Factors Bought formerly in those Countreys, Mafts, Ship-Tymber & other Navall Stores at easie Rates in Barter & Exchange, for Our coarse, Ordinary English Manufacture only, But they have of late years Sett the Dice upon us, & oblige us to pay above two thirds in ready money, for those Comodites at much higher prices, but not nigh so good in Quality as formerly; Which unavoidably Draines England
Yearly,

Yearly, of Vast Sumes of ready money. Neither is our Trade to the East Indies, (from whence the greatest part of Our Salt Petre is brought) so well Secured, but it may be unexpectedly Engrossed by Our Neighbours, and we must then depend on them to supply us with Salt Petre as now with Spice; etc.

Wherefore for Preventing these Growing mischeifs of such dangerous consequence to this Kingdome Itt is humbly proposed That England may in a little time be Plentifully Supplied, wth Mafts Ship Tymber, Oaken Plank, Pitch Tarr Rozin Hemp Flax and Salt Petre from her own Colonies and Provinces in America, and Islands Adjacent.

1st Trees. Fitt for Mafts &c Grow in great Plenty in the Provinces of New Hampshire and in New England, but till of late very much destroyed by Saw Mills and Canoe Makers many great Mafts are yearly fetcht from thence, but now not many such Trees are to be found in either Province nigh the Water, And therefore more chargeable to Carry them 7 or 8 miles by Land and afterwards Floated to the Ships; Infomuch, that in a little time necessity will force us to make Mafts of Cyprefs Trees, Which are very large, and in great Plenty nigh Navigable Rivers, As, in Virginia, at Chicahomini, in James River, at West Point and other Places in York River and Rappahannack and also in severall Rivers in North Carolina.

Att Kennebeck River above 50 miles Northward from Pascataqua River (the only River from whence the Great Mafts are brought) are abundance of very large Fir Trees fitt for Mafts, and at Abigaduffitt (ten miles from the mouth of it)

is

is a Place for a Saw Mill, and such Plenty of Pine and Firr, enough to Load 40 or 50 Veffells yearly, with Mafts Boards Plank &c. On Beare Island likewise, lying North E and not farr from Kennebeck are large Firr Trees fit for Mafts, But the Indians Supported by the French, Did in the year 1689 Drive the English out of Kennebeck, and Places Inhabited and Fortified more Northerly; Demolished and Burnt all the New Forts Built by S^r Edmund Andros, and destroyed or made Prisoners of the greatest Number of the Inhabitants in the Province of Main, and since destroyed the Town of Dover & many of the People in the Province of New Hampshire, So that the River Pascataqua, where the Few Mafts remaining in those 2 Provinces, can be Shipped off, is the only Place to depend on for great Mafts of Firr at this time, from those Northern parts of America.

2 Timber & } For Building Ships; There is Growing upon
Plank } every Navigable River and Creek from Pem-
maquid in New England Northward, to the Southern parts
of Virginia (above 700 miles in length) vast, very Vast
Quantities of Oaken Tymber, both Streight and Compas,
with convenient Places, and depths of Water to Build Ships:
So that 60 Saile of Good Ships from 200 to 500 Tuns and
upwards may yearly be built in those Colonies at one third
less charge than in England. as at Pascataqua (where the
Faulckland Frigatt about 700 Tunns, was Built 3 or 4 years
agoe). And at Salisbury, Salem, Boston, Charles Towne,
Hingham Road Island, New Bristoll, New London, in New
England As also at Mamaranack River, 12 miles to the
Southward

Southward from New York, and in the Provinces of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia.

3. Pitch & Tarr. Great Quantities of Pitch and Tarr, are made already at severall places, as in the Colonies of New Plymouth and Connecticut in New England, w^{ch} Serves not only that Country, but some hundred Barrells are yearly Sent to the West Indies, There are likewise severall Islands nigh the Eastern Shoar of Chesepeak Bay, & also on the Main Land innumerable numbers of Trees to make Pitch and Tarr of, the Inhabitants make these, for their own occasions, but on the severall Branches of Elizabeth River in Virginia, Pitch and Tarr are some of their Staple Commodities, and more would everywhere be made, if there were a good Markett for it.

4. Rozin. There may Enough be made in those Colonies, to supply England & her Neighbours. About 4 years agoe, some French Protestants made Rosin, not farr from Boston, at their own Plantacons and Shipped 2 Tunns to Try the Markett in England, It was approved of, to be as good, as any ever brought from France, but the charge for Necessaries to begin the Work, and the High Freight this Warr time; Made them losers, and Stopped their further undertakings.

5 Hemp & Flax Grow very kindly, very large, and very plentifully in all the Plantations, & some Colonies, have Lawes Obligeing them to Sow yearly a Quantity of Hemp and Flax Seed, according to the Number of their Servants; They have in Road Island, more than they have use for, &
VOL. VII. — 10 Sell

Sell it to their Neighbours. I have Seen as good Bright Dressed Flax, brought from thence to Boston, as I have seen in England, they use their Hemp for Linnen and Cordage, but Sow not much for want of Servants.

6. Salt Petre Some Sorts of the Materialls for making Salt Petre are found almost everywhere, in his Ma^{ty} West India Colonies, Islands, and Plantations, the Rocks nigh the Shoar in some parts of New England are Covered very thick with the Dung of Sea Fowles, And in the Woods where Wild Pidgeons, take their constant Stand not far from Plantations, the Ground is 3 or 4 Foot thick of their Dung, as also the Floors of Old Tobacco houses in Virginia and Maryland, the Earth likewise on the Banck sides of some of the Great Rivers in Virginia above 60 miles from the Salt Water, is naturally very Salt Infomuch That tis Furrowed very deep in some Places by the Tongues of Wild Beasts, Which come Constantly to Lick it; About ten or twelve years agoe D^r Daniell Cox, (then one of the Proprietors of West Jerfey, sent Cap^t. D'Broy a Frenchman to make Salt Petre in that Province, he made Some, But the D^{rs} Agent failing to Supply d'Broy with money he left off, and the Work was Ruined; He told me there were Plenty of Materialls, in those Countreyes and desired me to Recomend him to S^r Edmund Andros to be Employed, to make Salt Petre, but falling into a Trade with the Indians for Furrs, he is now Setled on the Southerne Shoar of Delaware Bay.

There are Islands to the Eastward of Cape Florida called the Bahama Islands in the Possession of the Subjects of the
Crowne

Crowne of England, which have Salt enough to Supply England; I Do not Question but if some Sober Well Experienced Persons, were Employed in the Search they would find materialls from whence Salt Petre is produced, in a great many places. 'Tis Neceffary That the Great Tymber fitt for his Ma^{tie's} Service upon Navigable Rivers in all the Colonies & Provinces of Virginia Maryland &c be preserved from Waft.

The following Coppy of an Addrefs from the Govern^r and Affembly in Maryland, in answer to a Letter from her late Sacred Ma^{tie} is a Voucher of what I have herein represented.

To the R^t Hono^{ble} the Lords of the Comittee of Trade and Plantations.

The humble Addrefs of their Ma^{ts}

Dutifull and Loyall Subjects &c.

May it please your Lord^{ps}

We had a Proposition laid before us, wherein it was required, what Quantities of Pitch Tar Mafts Hemp Pipe Staves and other things fitt for his Ma^{ts} Navy; may be by this Province off [*MS. torn*] We give your Lord^{ps} to understand that this Countrey may Yeild great Quantities of Hemp Flax Pitch and Tar Mafts Yards Pipe Staves Barrell Staves Knees Standards Planks & other Materialls for Shipping, Yet because Wee have not had any certain Markett for fuch Commodities, therefore We have not fo generally applied to the Procureing of them, But if it be acceptable to his Ma^{tie} to have his Navy Supplied out of his Dominions in America, This Province may be very Serviceable in Affaires of that nature, if your Lord^s please to Give

us

us one years notice to prepare, and please to propofe to us fuch methods of Dealing & of pay[ing] and fuch prices of every particular Comodity, as may Encourage us to Employ our Servants in part to that purpofe, and fhall alfo please to particularize the Comodities & the Quantities & what prices we may Expect for the fame.

H. DENTON Cl Council

W. BLADEN Cl. Affembly

All which is humbly Submitted

By ED. RANDOLPH

[*Endorfed*] A Difcourfe how to render the
Plantations more beneficiall &
Advantageous to England by bringing
Mafts &c from thence

Presented to the Board by
M^r Randolph: the 24th July 1696

Plantations Gen^l C.
Enter'd fol. 12

A. 2

CXLV.

RANDOLPH'S ACCOUNT OF THE PLANTATION OF VIRGINIA.

Board of Trade, Virginia, Vol. VI. no. 5.

To y^e Right Hon^{ble} y^e Lords & Others y^e Comittee for Trade &
Plantaçons

May it pleas Y^r Lordships

The following difcours Humbly Represents

1. The great difcouragment the planters in Virginia lye
under,

under, and the loss occasioned thereby to his Majesty in his customs on Tobacco.

2. The Methods effectually, to Remedy and prevent those growing Mischiefs for the future.

3. The certain advantage which will arise thereupon to his Majesty & the planters of Tobacco in that Colony.

It is the Interest, and has bin the great care of this Governm^t to preserve their trade to the plantations, intirely to themselves, and to that end, divers Acts of Parliament are made, with Severe penalties upon the violaters thereof, but no care hath hitherto bin taken, to increas & encourage the Number of planters of Tobacco in Virginia, nor hath it at any time bin inquired into, whence it comes to pass, that, That colony (the first English Settlement upon the continent of America, begun above Eighty Years agoe) is not better Inhabited, considering what vast Numbers of Servants & others, have yearly bin transported thither. Some have imputed it to the unhealthiness of the place, others, That Tobacco being the only Staple commodity in the country, yields them little (all charges deducted) when 'tis brought to England. But the chief & only Reason, is, The Inhabitents & Planters have bin, and at this time are discouraged & hindred from planting Tobacco in that Colony, and Servants are not So willing to goe there, as formerly, because the Members of the Councill & others who make an Interest in the Governm^t have from time to time procurd grants of very large Tracts of land, So that ther has not for many years bin any waste land to be taken up, by those who bring with them Servants, or by Such Servants, who have Servd their time faithfully with their Masters, but it is
taken

taken up & ingrofd before hand, wherby, they are forced to hyer & pay a yearly Rent for Som of thofe lands, or goe to the Utmoft bounds of the Colony for land, expofd to danger, & often times proves the Occafion of Warr with the Indians.

The manner of taking up land in Virginia, is, Evry Adventurer or planter, has upon his Arrivall, a Right to fifty Acres of land in the Colony: If he intends to take up any, he is firft to make Oath before the Govern^r or Councill, or att a County Court, of the Number of perfons he imports, and they of cours, grant him a certificate therupon, which is enterd in the Secretarys Office, and is then produc'd by him, to the Surveyor of the County where the land lies wafte. He makes a Survey, allowing 50 Acres, according to the Number of his Rights (perfons Imported) which with the Rights, is carryd to the Secretarys Office, on which a patent is made and Sign'd by the Govern^r in Councill, who caufes the Seale of the Colony, to be affixd to it, which gives the claimer an Eftate in Fee Simple, but upon the following conditions.

1. To pay the King Yearly, one Shilling for evry 50 Acres of land, but they never pay one penny of Quitrent for it, by which in Strictnefs of Law, their Land is forfeited.
2. They are to Seat Such land within three years, otherwife tis deferted; by Seating land is meant, that they build an hous upon it, and keep a good Stock of hog̃s & cattle & Servants to take care of them, and to improve & plant the land: But inftead, therof, they cut down a few trees & make therwith a little Hut, covering it with the bark & turn two or three hog̃s into the woods by it: Or elfe they are to clear
one

one Acre of that land, and to plant & tend it one year : But they fell twenty or thirty trees, and put a little Indian Corn in the ground among them as they lye, and Sometimes make a begining to fence it, but take no care of their Crop, nor make any further use of their land.

3. If such land lye farr up in the Country upon the frontiers, they are Injoynd by a Law of the Country, to keep 4 able men, well Arm'd, but that Law is never observd.

By these Grants being procurd upon Such easy terms, and very often upon falce Certificates of Rights, many hold twenty or thirty thousand Acres of land a piece very largely surveyd without paying one penny Quitrent for it : In many pattents, there is double the quantity of land, their pattent expresse, wherby, Some hundred thousand Acres of land, are taken up, but not planted ; which drives away the Inhabitents & Servants, brought up only to planting, to Seek their fortunes in Carolina and other places, which depopulates the Country, and hinders the making many thousand hogshed of Tobacco, to the great diminution of his Majesties Revenue upon that Comodity.

For present Remedy, wherof, 'T is humbly proposd

1. That a Survey be forthwith Orderd to be made of Such lands, in evry County of Virginia.

2. That a Demand be made of the full of all the Arrears of the Quit rents due for those lands, and that the claimers therof be compeld by Law to pay them. The Sherriff of King & Queens County, about 4 years Since, made a Return, that there were 38000 Acres of land in his County, taken up by patent, for which he coud receive no Quit rents, there
being

being nothing on the land to distrein, and the persons who claimed the Same, livd in other Counties.

3. That Strict Orders be given, that Grants hereafter Shall be made upon more certain terms, and not above five hundred Acres, to be granted to one man, Such Restriction being att this time very requisite, becaus, in Some parts of the Country, where the Indians Inhabited (as Pomunkey⁴⁴⁴ Neck & the South Side of James River) those lands were Severall years forbidden, to be taken up; but the Indians being reducd to Small Numbers, the Burgeesses of the Affsembly, have addrest the Govern^r to grant away those lands: His Majesty hath bin pleasd to grant 20000 Acres of those lands, to the College in Virginia,⁴⁴⁵ w^{ch} will soon be Settled & planted, if great quantities are not all ready granted away, to Severall persons who have long aimd at it, tho they have Some thousand Acres of land, more than they know what to doe with.

The Advantages, which upon a due Regulation of these evill practices will arise to his Majesty & y^e Inhabitents & plant^{rs} in Virginia, are

1. The compelling the Claimers of Such vast Tracts of land, to pay their Arrears of Quitrents, will raise a great Sum of mony, or otherwise, upon their refusall, Some hundred thousand Acres of unimprovd land, will Revert to the Crown,

⁴⁴⁴ The question of Pamunkey Neck had been dealt with by the Council of Virginia, who, on 13th February, 1696, suspended all further surveys and entries in that district until further orders.

⁴⁴⁵ The extent to which the College was damnified by these proceedings is

described in a long and able Memorial drawn up by Hartwell, Blair and Chilton, and presented to the Board of Trade (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1697, no. 1396). They blame Andros as having reversed Nicholson's policy.

Crown, and invite home those, who for want of land, left Virginia and incourage more to come from proprieties & other places, to make their Settlement, in That Colony, being well affurd in their Titles, and to hold of the Crown only.

2. The granting away Such lands in parcells, not exceeding 500 Acres to one man, will mightily increas the Number of planters, who thro Necessity, will Seat them Selvs, in a farr nearer Neighbourhood, than formerly, and therby, be the better enabled, to Secure their Country, their families & plantations from Spoile & Rapine, and many thousand hogf-heads of Tobacco, will be yearly made more, than were formerly, in that Colony.

3. The trade, the Shiping & the Navigation of England, will be encourag'd, and the Revenue of his Majesties Customs upon Tobacco, therby yearly increas'd.

Cott Nichollson, Liev^{nt} Gent^l of Virginia was very Sensible of the damage & Injustice done his Majesty, by their using & conniving, att Such unwarrantable practices, in granting away the Kings lands in that Colony, and was resolv'd to Reform them, by Suing Some of the Chiefe Claimers of Such lands, for the Arrears of their Quitrents; but finding that the Members of the Councill, and many of the hous of Burgeffes, with others were concernd, being uncertaine of his continuing in the Government, Orderd to begin with one Lawrence Smyth, who was Seiz'd of many thousand Acres of land in Severall Counties, and was Indebted for the Arrears of Quitrents, for one particular Tract of land, Eighty pounds, which, after the caus was ripe for Judgment, was compounded for, att lesf than halfe the Sum.

[*Endorfed*]

[*Endorsed*] discourfe
 to Encourage the planting
 tobacco in Virginia
 by
 Ed. Randolph.

Recd the 31th Aug^t 1696

Read y^e 6th Octob^r 1696

Entred Fol : 19th

A. 6

[*Attached to first page*]

M^r Randolph's Discourfe
 ab^t Virginia Aug^t 31th 1696

The ingrossing of too large Tracts of Land by particular men is a hindrance to others from planting.

Quit-Rents not paid ; And Lands not feated, nor inhabited, as required by Law (which are general Cafes) are grounds of Forfeiture

Remedies.

A Survey to be made

Quit-Rents to be demanded.

Future Grants of land to be restricted to more certain Terms,

And not above 500 Acres to one man.

Advantages.

Arrears of Quit-Rents will raise a great sum to the King.

Granting lands in smaller parcells will oblige to more regular planting.

Trade encouraged: Customs increased.

CXLVI.

BOARD OF TRADE TO THE LORDS JUSTICES.

America and West Indies, 601. no. 32 I.

To their Excellencys the Lords Justices ⁴⁴⁶

May it please Your Excys ⁴⁴⁷

In obedience to yo^r Excys Order of the 23th of July last annexed to an Extract of a Presentment from the Comm^{rs} of the Customes, Wee humbly Represent to yo^r Excys that in Our Opinion the Constituting Atturnys Generall in each respective Plantation as moved for, by the Comm^{rs} of the Customes will be conducing to the Ends by them proposd; And that therefore in Order to the putting of that design in Execution, Wee haue advised with M^r Edward Randolph Surveyor Generall of His Ma^{ty}s Customes in the Continent of

⁴⁴⁶ The Lords Justices were not judicial officers, but were appointed practically as Regents of the Kingdom during the frequent absences of the King in Holland.

⁴⁴⁷ The first part of this paper is printed *supra*, Vol. V. p. 145. It will be noticed that Randolph proposes the removal of his distant kinsman, William Randolph. See Berry, *County Genealogies . . . Kent*, pp. 278-279; and for William Randolph of Turkey Island see Moncure D. Conway's monograph on *Edmund Randolph*, p. 5. The Reply of the Lords Justices is dated 10th September, and is as follows: "Upon reading the annexed Representation of the

Councill of Trade concerning Atturnys Generall to be appointed in His Ma^{ty}s Plantations in America. It is this day ordered by their Excys in Council that it be and it is hereby Referrd to Mr Attorney Generall to consider whether an Attorney Generall May not be appointed for his Ma^{ty} in each of the severall Colonys and Provinces of Carolina, Pensilvania — East and West New Jerfey, Conecticutt, Road Island and the Massachusets Bay in America, Notwithstanding the Grants and Charters to the said Colonies and Provinces and to Report his opinion thereupon to this Board." (*America and West Indies*, 601. no. 32.)

of America, and are by him informed that William Randolph the present Atturmy Generall in Virginia is wholly unacquainted with the Lawes and practice of the Courts in England; that George Platter the present Atturmy Generall in Mariland is a favourer of illegall Trade, That David Lloyd the present Atturmy Generall in Pensilvania has Declared that he served for the Province only and thereupon refused to put Severall forfeited Bonds in Suit, That Anthony Checkly the present Atturmy Generall of the Maffachufets Bay is not only Ignorant of the Lawes of England, but has been himself an illegal Trader For which reasons Wee are also humbly of Opinion that the forenamed Persons are not fit to be His Ma^{ty}s Atturnys Generall, however fitt they may be judged by the Proprietors of any of those Provinces for the Places that they haue power to dispose of. And that it may be expedient for His Ma^{ty}s Service that the Persons following whom the said M^r Edward Randolph represents as duly qualifeyed may be Constituted His Ma^{ty}s Atturnys Generall for the respective Colonys hereafter mentioned viz^t For Virginia, Mariland and Pensilvania (as also for North Carolina and West Jerfey where there is at present No Atturmy Generall) Edward Chilton, For the Maffachufets Bay (as also for Road Island and New Hampshire, where also there is at present none) Thomas Newton. For New Yorke, (as also for East Jerfey and Conecticott where also there is at present none) James Graham. These being the only alterations of this Kinde for which Wee haue any grounds suggested to us. Wee omitt to Mention those of His Ma^{ty}s Colonies wherein there are Atturnys Generall already Setled, And
humbly

humbly Submitt Our Opinion upon these to yo^r Ex^{cys}
confideration.

J. BRIDGEWATER
PH. MEADOWS
JOHN POLLEXFEN
JOHN LOCKE
ABR. HILL

Whitehall September
the 7th 1696

A true Copy
Rich. Colinge

CXLVII.

RANDOLPH'S REPLIES TO QUERIES ABOUT VIRGINIA.

Board of Trade, Virginia, Vol. VI. no. 9.

Queries proposd by the R^{tt} Hono^{ble} the Com^{rs} for Trade,
to Edward Randolph, Survey^r Gen^l of his M^{ty}s Customs
&c : in Rela^{cion} to the Lands, in the Colony of Virginia,
together with his Answers thereto.

1. Question What propor^{cion} of Lands, already
taken up is now Cultivated, as neer as
you can Gues?

Answer There are in the Colony of Virginia
upon a Moderate Computa^{cion} above
500000 Acres of Land granted by patents,
of which, not above 40000 Acres are
Cultivated & Improvd, besides many
thoufand Acres of Waft Land, high up
in the Country.

2. Question What has hindred, that the profecũon, neglected in Col^t Nicholfons time, for the Reasons that you Intimate, have not bin Reafum'd & Continu'd Since?

Answer Col^t Nicholfon was the firſt Gov^r of that Colony, who directed A profecũon to be made for Arrears of Quitt Rents, & did Order the Attorney Gen^l to begin, with Col^t Lawrance Smith, ⁴⁴⁸ an owner of Large Tracts of Land, lying in Severall Counties. The Caus was ready for Tryall, but the Gov^r came for England, before the Caus was Try'd, it was afterwards compounded for A Small Matter.

3. Question Who has any Authority, to Compound for his Mātys Quit Rents?

Answer Noe Man upon the place, has any Authority to Compound for his Mātys Quitt Rents, but it was done in the Cafe of Col^t Smith.

4. Question Hath any quantities of Land, att any time, for want of planting, Seating or paying the Quit Rents, bin actually Seizd to the Kings Uſe?

Answer Some Small parcells of Land, are evry Court granted away to Others upon petitions,

⁴⁴⁸ From the Minutes of the Council of Virginia, 21st May, 1691, it would appear that Smyth or Smith was actually arrested on his attempting to leave the town.

çons, for not being planted & Seated, according to Law, But No Land hath att any time bin Seizd to his Mātys Use, for not paying of Quitt Rents.

- 5 Question Are Negro Servants Understood to be Included or not, in the Number of persons, that give A Right to any porçon of Lands, to those who Import them?

Answer All Negro Servants, Men, Women & Children give A Right to those who Import them, who thereupon, take up Land, contrary to the true Intençons of Seating that Country, but, It being generally practised, to the advantage of Some persons, No Notice is taken of it.

6. Question What are the Methods of Surveying in that Country?

Answer The Importers take out a Certificate of their Rights, which upon their Oath made before the Gov^r in Councill, or att A County Court they have obtaind, & carry the Same to the Surveyor of the County where they have A minde to take up Land, & Shew him the Land they Suppose to lye WASTE, who gives him a Survey, which he carrys to the Secretarys Office, where he has a Patent of Cours.

7. Question Have you known of any false Certificates of Rights, & how are the Guilty in those Cases punished?

Answer I have heard of many: 'Tis become a Common practice in the Country, but little Regarded, being no prejudice to any private person.

8 Question Of what Extent are the Counties in that Country? And are they pretty near of Equall Bigness, or Not.

Answer There are 23 Counties in Virginia, Some nigh as bigg again as others, but no Survey has as yett bin made of the Country, which, tis Necessary to be done.

9. Question What is the Meaning of your proposition that not above 500 Acres of Land, should be granted to One Man?

Answer To prevent the like Engrofeing of Lands for the future to the prejudice of Others, who are forced to leave the Country for want of Land to plant. Nevertheless, it will hinder no person from taking up Greater parcells of Land, if he produce Certificates of Rights Legally Obtained: It s' therefore, absolutely Necessary, That, a Law be made in the Country, Inflicting Severe penaltys, on the person, who produces a false Certificate, and also, on the person or persons, allowing them.

10. Question In case it should be thought fitt to follow the Methods that you propofe, in what part, or in what County, doe you think it moft Advifeable to begin?

Answer The Members of the Councill, have large Tracts of Land in moft of the Counties of Virginia, for which they are in great Arrears of Quitt Rent: Its Advifeable to make a begining with Some of them, & to Impower A perfon Uninterrefted in the Country, to Demand the Arrears of Quitt Rents, due to his Māty, which being paid, will Raife A Considerable Sum of Money, & Increas yearly, his Mātys Revenue in that Colony. If the patentees refufe to pay the Arrears due, According to the Condiçon, their Lands were granted to them, Some hundred thoufand Acres of Land, will Revert to the Crown, to be more Carefully difpofd of, for the future.

ED. RANDOLPH S: G:

[*Endorfed*] Answers of Edward Randolph
to Severall Questions, propofd
to him by the R^{tt} Hono^{ble}
the Com^{rs} for Trade
Virginia

Rec^d Octob^r 1696
A. 9.

CXLVIII.

RANDOLPH'S REVISED LIST OF JUDGES, REGISTRARS AND MARSHALS.⁴⁴⁹*Board of Trade, Plantations General, Vol. IV. no. 36 I.*

The Names of Persons to be appointed the Judges and Register^{rs} and Marshalls in the Courts of Admiralty

Bermudos	Gilbert Nelson	Judge
	Samuell Spoforth	Register
	Samuell Dafrey	Marshall
South Carolina	Joseph Morton	Judge
	Thomas Carey	Register
	Richard Bellinger	Marshall
Virginia and North Carolina	Edward Hill	Judge
	Miles Carey	Register
	Michael Sherman	Marshall
Maryland	S ^r Thōs Lawrence Baron ^t	Judge
	Henry Denton	Register
	Thomas Collier	Marshall
Pennsylvania and West Jersey	Robert Quarry	Judge
	W ^m Rodeney	Register
	Robert Webb	Marshall
		New

⁴⁴⁹ This list differs considerably from that given *supra*, Vol. V. p. 136. It gives entirely different lists for the Bahamas and South Carolina, and con-

tains the names of Randolph's two staunch friends, Sir Thomas Laurence and Robert Quarry.

New York, East Jersey and Collony of Connecticot in New England	} William Smyth John Tudor Jarvis Marshall	Judge Register Marshall
--	--	-------------------------------

Colony of Road Island	Peleg Sandford Nathaniell Coddington W ^m Allen	Judge Register Marshall
--------------------------	---	-------------------------------

Province of the Massachusetts Bay and Province of New Hampshire in New England	} Nathaniell Byfeild Lawrance Hammond Henry Franklin	Judge Register Marshall
--	--	-------------------------------

The Bahama Islands	John Layton Thomas Waldock Joseph Harwood	Judge Register Marshall
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CXLIX.

RANDOLPH ON THE APPOINTMENT OF PROPRIETARY
GOVERNORS.

America and West Indies, 601. no. 40.

To the Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade

May it please yr Lords^{pps}

vnderstanding, that the Lords Proprietors of the Islands
of new Providence Elutheria, and other the Bahama
Islands

Islands haue recalled M^r Trott their present Gon^r and Contrary to the Act for preventing frauds & Regulating Abuses in the plantation Trade haue appointed and granted their Commiffion to Cap^t Nicholas Webb to be their Gon^r & to Succeed the Said Trott in the Governm^t of those Islands before his being first allowed & approved of by his Ma^{ties} Order in Councill, as in the Said Act is Enacted. That all Gon^{rs} nominated & appointed by any Such persons or proprietors who shall be entituled to make Such Nomination shall be approved of by his Ma^{tie} his heirs & Successors as aforefaid, etc: by which meanes the Illegall Trade carried on in those Islands, So often complained of, will be still Encouraged & Supported (as in the other proprieties) by the proprietors Gon^{rs} vnlesse they be first duely qualified as in the Said Act is Specially directed.

It is therefore humbly proposed, That the Said Cap^t Webb bee presented by the Lords proprietors of those Islands to his Ma^{tie} or to y^r Lords^{pps} to be Examined concerning his fittnes and other Qualifications for that Employment, & therevpon to bee approved by his Ma^{tie} if his Ma^{tie} shall think fitt.⁴⁵⁰

And where as y^r Lords^{pps} are appointed by his Ma^{tie} a Councill of Trade, which is very much Concerned here in:

I

⁴⁵⁰ In accordance with Randolph's suggestions, the House of Lords on 18th March, 1697, passed an Address to the King, suggesting that the Proprietors should be required to give security for the due execution of the Acts of Trade by their Governors. That this had lit-

tle effect in the case of Nicholas Webb may be seen *supra*, Vol. V. p. 170, but he was really the first Proprietary Governor appointed by the King in Council (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1697, no. 855).

I thought it my Duty humbly to represent the Same to
y^r Lords^{pps}

All which is humbly Submitted
by ED RANDOLP

Dec : 31 :
1696

[*Endorsed*]

Proprieties
Propofall of Edward Randolph
about the Govern^t of the
Bahama Iflands. To be
p^refented to his Ma^{tie} &c^a

Rec^d }
Read } y^e 31th Dec^r 1696

A. 12.

CL.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF
THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r.

ffeb^{ry} 20th 1696.

I this day attended the Lords at their Committee: &
prefented them with a list of the proprietors with some
remarks vpon their Gon^{rs} & arbitrary proceedings at the
fame tyme I laid before their Lordf^{pes} the Mapp fhewing all
the proprietyes as they lye from South to North. they were
very intent & ye E: of Mackelffeild⁴⁵¹ could not forbear his
opinion

⁴⁵¹ Charles Gerard, second Earl of Macclesfield (1659-1701), a man of wild character, but of considerable experience and travelled knowledge. He is perhaps best known to history as the husband of Richard Savage's mother.

opinion that they ought all to be ^{annexed} taken into the Kings possession: & others were of the like opinion:

Mr penn did not appeare today tho' yesterday very hott at y^e Custome house in profecuting Mr Brookes for observing his instructions at N: york: the Comm^{rs} tooke little notice of his complaint: & left him to apply more properly for redresse: he is directed peremptorily to attend next tueffday:

the L^{ds} proprietors of the Bahama Islands are summoned to attend next Munday about their Gon^t hauing a fetled maintainance. & his giuing 1000^l security: It was discourfd that those Islands ought to be taken care of: that Cap^t Webb. ought to be well provided for:

the Lords are of opinion that the 3 lower Countyes are holden by lease from ye Duke of Yorke & Mr Penn has not ye Gom^t of them: nor Dr Coxe & partners the 2 Jerseys: I did offer the propofall in writing about hauing the Gom^{ts} in the proprietyes to be invested in the Crown. Some of the Lords presently agreed to haue a claufe to that purpose But others agree that their Titles (such as they bee) should be well looked into. not by the present Atturney Gen^l because he with Mr Serjeant Ward reported vpon it but by one more of the Judges.

I know the pleasant entertainm^t at Durham will afford little tyme to confider of the proprietyes: but since you were pleased to think it necessary that a claufe should be provided for investing the Gom^{ts} of the proprietyes. be pleased to oblige Mr Pen & the Jersey Gentⁿ with a draft of such a Claufe: that I may haue it ready againft the next tyme I attend their Lordf^{ps} it will faue a great deale of tyme & putt a speedy iffue to their vncertaine expectations: I had this
day

day a Gen^l Order to attend : & hope not to loose my tyme .
or buſines. I will not faile to giue you an account how
matters go in my new province: labouring hard for a new
modell of ye proprietys Gom^{ts} hoping & are fafe arrived I
wiſh you all happines & am

S^r your obliged humble ſer^t

ED RANDOLPH :

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble} :
M^r Blathwayte
at Durham
in Gloſterſheire

[*Endorſed*] 20 Feb : 96
From M^r Randolph
upon his hearing before the
Lords about M Pen

CLI.

COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS ON RANDOLPH'S LIST
OF OFFICIALS.

Board of Trade, Plantations General, Vol. IV. no. 36.

Right Hon^{ble}

We haue received your Letter of the 24th Inſtant deſiring
us to giue you a Liſt of Such Names as We think fitt to be
Preſented to his Ma^{tie} to be Employed in the Severall Courts
of Adm^{ty} Your Lord^{ps} having according to a Preſentm^t of
ours to the Lords Comm^{rs} of the Trea^{ry} Propoſed to his
M^{tie} The Erecting ſuch Courts of Adm^{ty} in the Severall
Plantations in America as well thoſe under diſtinct Pro-
prieties

prieties as others, And We having on this Occasion Summon'd before us M^r Randolph Survey^r Generall of the Plantacons on the North Coast of America And Received from him a List of the Severall Persons w^{ch} in pursuance of our Sayd Presentm^t (of the 17 July 1696) he sayd before the Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Comm^{rs} of the Adm^{ty} in w^{ch} List he hath On further Enquiry and Examination alterd the Names of the Persons in South Carolina & the Bahama Islands We doe herewith Transmitt the Same to yo^r Lord^{ps} with those alteracons,

The best means we can think off to be Informed of their fitness for the respectiue Imployments of Judge Register & Marshall being from the Character w^{ch} the said Randolph giues of them. We are

Yo^r Lord^{ps}

Most humble Servants

Custom house London:

25 Febr̃y 1696

Lords Comm^{rs} of y^e Council of Trade.

ROBT CLAYTON
WALTER YONGE
SAM CLARKE
BEN OUERTON

CLI A.

TWO PAPERS OF PENN IN ANSWER TO RANDOLPH AND
RANDOLPH'S DEFENCE.

House of Lords Com: Book, March 1, 1696-7.

Transcribed in Calendar of MSS. Vol. II. pp. 456-460. no. 1115 (r) (s) (t).

(r) Mr Penn's Answer⁴⁵² to Mr Randolph touching the three lower counties, viz^t

1. The lower counties were granted to me in Fee upon advice of the best and ablest Counsel of England with a design of Government as well as foil. On these terms I solicited and received them and without it would not have made my two years' expedition to America, the rest being very imperfect if not impracticable, without their addition; and

⁴⁵² This paper of Penn's is in answer to a Memorial of Randolph, practically identical with that printed *supra*, Vol. V. p. 151, but in which the "Three Lower Counties of Suffex, Kent, and Newcastle upon Delaware" are described separately from Pennsylvania, as follows:

"Mr Penn is the Proprietor of the foil only. The Duke of York obtained a grant of them from King Charles the Second with power of government, and soon after let them by lease to Mr Penn. He has set up a sort of government amongst the inhabitants. Those counties lie above 100 miles upon the southern part of Delaware Bay, the only place upon that bay where they plant tobacco. It is adjoining all along to Maryland, from whence great quantities of Tobacco are some years brought

over land to Delaware and shipped directly for Scotland. Nine vessels for the year 1690 to the year 1695 have carried tobacco out of the Bay to Scotland directly, besides Gustavus Hamilton, the chief factor for the Scotch merchants in Glasgow, and two other vessels, who have since carried their Tobacco to Glasgow directly. Pirates are harboured there and purchase their provisions of bread beer, etc at Philadelphia. The Commissioners of the Customs have appointed two Officers for those counties, but they will signify little till they are annexed to the government of Maryland, or otherwise, as his Majesty shall be pleased to appoint." The Memorial is given in full in *Manuscripts of the House of Lords*, Vol. II. pp. 440-443. Cf. *supra*, Vol. V. p. 156.

and so it has been understood in K. Charles, K. James, and this King's time

2. It is time that what Tobacco grows with us is made there, but amounts not to, one year with another, above 600 or 700 hogheads, which is but loading for a ship of ordinary bulk.

3. If Tobacco be carried from Maryland to our side in fraud to the King, Edw. Randall ought to answer for that for suffering it, and if he can't, how can I? The crime lies on the side of Maryland, where he chiefly resides; and there it is such practices should be stopped, and not that we should suffer for their neglects.

4. When it is on our side there is a Navall officer of his own appointment, and has been long, who ought to answer for it. For it were very hard that we should be security for officers of his putting in.

5. There is not any place upon both the bays where there is so little and so ill tobacco made as at and near the rivers of Bohemia and Opaquimany. Besides, the water carriage is so much cheaper on Maryland side, and the conveyance safer for such practices that Edward Randall confesses 27 fail of ships have transgressed from Maryland, which he calls a Kings' government and is more immediately under his own inspection for 9 fail that went from our parts: and if true, I dare affirm did not carry more tobacco than two of those from Maryland.

6. As there is but one way alleged by E. Randall that any fraud can be committed, viz. from Bohemia river to Opaquimany on our side, so let it be considered that those bulky hogheads must be brought 8 or 10 miles over land in that
only

only way, which I never heard was attempted but once and then discovered. Nor can there be any advantage proposed in doing of it, since one halfpenny per pound is all they can promise themselves for these following risks: first, the charge of land carriage; secondly the hazard of being taken; thirdly the rarity and difficulty of freight on our side, being oftentimes six months without shipping: fourthly for the convenience of shipping, that makes our freight much dearer than from Maryland which oftentimes obliges us to send our growth to Virginia; lastly we have no convoys, which fleets from Maryland and Virginia seldom go without.

For conclusion in answer to his Charge relating to the lower counties, we have made a law to prohibit the importation of tobacco into our Province upon the forfeiture of the whole, unless it pay the penny per pound to the King, according to the Acts of Navigation, which are carefully observed in that Province, which is made what it is by the estates and industry of a sober honest people, and not by any indirect ways as he basely suggests. Please to call Saml Groome, Robt. Ruddle, Jeremiah Bafs, Capt. Wild, Richard Hill

WM. PENN.

[delivered on this day]

(s) Mr Penn's Answer to Mr Randolph's Paper relating to Pennsylvania, viz^t

1. I acknowledge Colonel Markham is my Deputy-Governor, a man without exception, or the Lords of the Privy Council would not have recommended him to the late Queen, as they did, for her approbation, and which she as readily complied with. He was Deputy Governor to Colonel Fletcher,
Governor

Governor of New York while my Province was under his care and therefore I conceive no fault in me to continue him.

2. That Patrick Robinson is a Scotchman and Secretary is true: but that he is by the Laws of England capable of being so is as true; but he was not of my making, and if the King think it improper, he shall be immediately removed by my next letters.

3. That David Floyd is called a Quaker and is the Attorney General is true, but that he is reputed an honest man and the ablest lawyer in that Province, and a zealous man for the Government, none that knows him will deny, he having often given such proof in cases wherein the interest of the Crown has been concerned.

4. For what concerns his reflection upon our Judges,⁴⁵³ they are honest and substantial men, one of them being worth fifty times the estate of the reflector.

5. For the two ships pretended to come from Scotland and Norway, I know nothing of them, and therefore crave time to answer it, though I believe not one word of the insinuation.

6. That the Governor favours pirates is both foul and false. Call Samuel Groome and Jeremy Bafs, for they have the pass of the Governor of New York to reside or travel through our Province, who is the King's Governor in that Province.

Lastly. That Colonel Markham desired the Collector's place can be no fault to the King that I know of nor to himself if

⁴⁵³ Randolph's charge against the Judges of Pennsylvania is apparently only contained in the House of Lords copy of his Memorial and runs as follows: "The Judges in the Courts of Judicature are not legally qualified neither can the Officers of the Customs obtain Justice for his Majesty."

if profitable. But if his poverty⁴⁵⁴ be an objection he shall be changed if the King pleases: but for that reason E. Randall ought not to be Surveyor of the Customs, who I have reason to believe, is not worth five hundred pounds, if one, in the whole world. Please to call Saml Groome, Counsellor Wharton, Jeremy Bafs, both to Colonel Markham's diligence against Pirates and Edward Randall's greater sufficiencies.

WM. PENN.

[Delivered on this day]

(t) Paragraphs relating to the three Lower Counties &c and Pennsylvania in answer to Mr Penn's exceptions viz^t

Paragraphs	Breve of the 2 paragraphs relating to the
Three Lower Counties	3 Lower Counties on Delaware Bay and Pennsylvania
	Vouched by
Great quantities of Tobacco are some years brought overland from Maryland to Delaware Bay	Capt. Brown's paper: the letters of Capt. Dyer, Mr Mein and of Mr Williams, officers of the Customs produced by Mr Savage* No 1
And shipped directly for Scotland	<i>Vide</i> abstract of the letters from Mr Prowse, the Commissioners of the Customs' Agent

⁴⁵⁴ Randolph's charge had been really directed against Penn himself for not giving Markham a sufficient salary to keep him honest.

Agent in Scotland, to Mr Savage. No 2

* Mr Nicholl informs of another way over land from Elk River to Newcastle as also Joseph Man.

Alexander Smart, Mathias D'Hart and Righton's bonds not discharged. Joseph Armstrong a Scotchman and a Quaker in London, part owner of Righton's vessel, Ebenezer Chaffin.

besides Gustavus Hamilton the chief agent for the Scotch merchants in Glasgow

Vide copy of Capt. Meeche's letter and journal to Col. Nicholson, and lists of Scotch merchants living in Glasgow and of Scotch merchants in London with whom they correspond No. 3.

Pirates are harboured there and purchase their provision in Philadelphia

Vide letter from Thomas Lowry to Wm Nicoll, which is vouched by Wm. Nicoll and Ebenezer Chaffin

Pennsylvania

No 3

Quer. What Mr Graves can inform of Pirates there and in all other places

Mr Markham is the present Governor, to whom Samuel

Vide his Commission from Mr Penn, 24 December Carpenter

Carpenter and John Goodson (Quakers) are joined with him in the Government, but refused to act

Patrick Robinson, a Scotchman, Secretary, and David Floyd a Quaker the country's Attorney-General.

One vessel with goods from Scotland; another with wine brandy and European goods from Norway having a Dutchman to be her master

The Judges of the Courts of Judicature are not quali-

1694, directing that care be taken to suppress all vice and disorderly walking. Carpenter, a great merchant. Goodson, a surgeon. No 4. Mr Penn thought it not fit to entrust the civil affairs of his Province to Mr Markham (an infirm man) only, yet has the great confidence to recommend him to the Lords of the Council of Trade, as fit to be the sole Governor, to be approved of by his Majesty in all matters of Trade and State with the addition of being appointed Vice-Admiral also. Pleaded in another province at the trial of a vessel from Scotland against the Prosecutor for his Majesty. *Vide* Capt. Meeche's journal and Webb's letter No 3. *Vide* Meeche's journal and Webb's letters Ibid.

Vide copies of the three trials signed by the Clerks of the
fied

fied according to law, neither can the Officers of the Customs obtain Justice for his Majesty.

The Governor is a favourer of Pirates

Pennsylvania lies in the centre between Maryland and New York most conveniently for illegal trade

No place has in so short a time by such ways been so greatly improved.

Courts in the 3 lower Counties No 5

Mr Nicholl can inform the unheard-of injustice done between party and party in that Province.

Vide Meeche's journal and Webb's letter No 3.

Vide Mr Markham's warrant to Mr Clark No 5.

Vide list of pirates given me by Mr Clark and Mr Blake at Chester in that Province in February 1694. No 5.

Everett Johnson, master of the vessel which imported wine and brandy etc from Norway was a Dutchman, and gone to New York when his vessel was seized. Journal No 3.

No justice to be had at her trial in Philadelphia

Vide Robert Webb's letter.

No 3.

By trade to Scotland, Carafaw, and other prohibited places

Vide Mr Markham's warrant to Mr Clark No 5.

Addenda.

Addenda.

That Col. Nicholfon was not the Governor of Maryland when the tobacco was carried thence to Scotland

The trade from the Plantations to Scotland is greater than before the Act for preventing frauds etc

Naval Officers take insufficient security for vessels loading Tobacco for England etc.

The goods were imported by Paris a pirate from Carafaw feized by Mr Clark tried and condemned by the Governor and Council and appraised not at $\frac{1}{4}$ the value.

He went over the Bay and feized the ship William and Mary from Scotland, Thomas Meeche, master. She was tried at Jamestown and failed, upon giving bond.

Vide Account of feizures in Maryland not profecuted

No 6 *

* And by an Order of Council holden at S^t Mary's in Maryland the 13th October 1694.

Vide lifts of vessels extracted out of Mr Prowse's letters from Scotland examined by Mr Board
Ebenezer Chaffin, Joseph Armstrong, Meeche's Journal.

No 3.

James Reid bound with Alexander Smart, Henry Vandeburg with Mathias D'Hart John Feratt with John

I have seized and prosecuted several vessels in Virginia Maryland and Pennsylvania.

And obtained judgment against Mathias D'Hart for 1000l. sterling at New York

Addenda

That I wrote to Governor Markham to take more care of bonds and certificates

That he discouraged the Officers of the Customs

That besides the Tobacco carried to England and Scotland, great quantities are carried from Delaware to the Plantations yearly.

John Walley. *Vide* Newcastle list of bonds No 2.


Joseph Man
Vide the lists of vessels⁴⁵⁵ seized and prosecuted No 6

Vide copy of the bond and the original judgment No. 6

Vide his letter to me March 1694 No. 4.

Vide Mr Clark's and Mr Blake's letters to me No. 4.

Vide copies of two lists, containing 78 vessels cleared from Delaware to the Plantations, by the Collectors of the Customs from the year 1686 to the year 1694. No 2.

 From whence it appears that there is a necessity of a Regulation made in Pennsylvania in the matter of Trade, and acquits my masters the Commissioners of the Customs from the unjust reflection of mispending the treasure of the Kingdom

⁴⁵⁵ This paper was no doubt accompanied by several confirmatory documents of which only one has survived. This is a list of ships, and is printed in full in the *Calendar of the Manuscripts*

of the House of Lords, Vol. II. pp. 462-463. It is of the same character as the two elsewhere printed in these Memoirs, and of no interest.

Kingdom to maintain their Officers in the Province, where, as it is affirmed, there does not grow above seven or eight hundred hogsheds of Tobacco yearly; but the illegal and very advantageous trade to the inhabitants cannot be suppressed until his Majesty be pleased to appoint a Governor for that end.

[No date or signature: probably delivered in by Mr Randolph 1st or 4th March.]

CLI B.

RANDOLPH'S MEMORIAL TO THE LORDS' COMMITTEE AGAINST
THE SCOTTISH EAST INDIA COMPANY.

House of Lords Com : Book, March 4, 1696-7.

Transcribed in Calendar of MSS. Vol. II. pp. 488-490. no. 1115 (cc).

4 March. Mr Randolph's Paper to the Committee as follows

May it please your Lordships.

The East India Company in Scotland have the following privileges granted them by the late Scotch Act under colour whereof they claim a right to trade in his Majesty's English Plantations

[Scotch Act. p. 4.] They have liberty to plant Colonies etc in and upon places not inhabited or in and upon places inhabited by
[p. 5] consent of the natives and inhabitants thereof: To make and conclude treaties of Peace and Commerce with the Governors and Proprietors, paying only to his Majesty of Scotland one hogshhead of Tobacco yearly, if required. And
although

although they forbid all other Scots than those of their own Company to touch on any Plantation which they shall acquire, on pain of confiscation, yet they allow all such Scots to trade in Tobacco and Sugar elsewhere (that is to say amongst the English) they paying for what they so bring home such duties as are established in Scotland : by all which it may be presumed how they project to let themselves into the Trade of his Majesty's Plantations, and it is probable they meditate either the purchasing a settlement in West Jersey on the northward, or in one of the three lower Counties of Newcastle Kent or Suffex on the southern shore of Delaware Bay, being no part or parcel of the land granted Mr Penn in his Patent of Pennsylvania, or in some one or more Islands nigh the Continent: by which expedient (if acquired) they might in a short time make a Staple not only of all sorts of European manufactures but also of the Enumerated Plantation commodities, even as it is at this day practised at the small Dutch island of Carafaw. For prevention therefore of so great a mischief to England, an Act was passed the last Session of Parliament intituled An Act for preventing Frauds and regulating Abuses in the Plantation

[page 509]

Trade wherein it is enacted ' That all persons claiming any right or property in any islands or tracts of land upon the Continent of America shall not hereafter sell or dispose of the said lands etc other than to the natural-born subjects of England, Ireland, dominion of Wales or town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, without the license or consent of his Majesty, his heirs and successors signified by his or their order in Council first had and obtained': which indeed puts a present stop to their selling any of those lands to the Scotch Com-
pany

pany, but there is no penalty upon such who shall sell or dispose of them without his Majesty's said Order in Council ;

[Ibid] ' And all Governors nominated and appointed by any such persons or proprietors who shall be Entitled to make such nomination shall be allowed and approved of by his Majesty, his heirs and successors as aforesaid and shall take the oath enjoined by this or any other Act to be taken by the Governors or Commanders-in-chief in other his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations before their entering upon their respective Governments under the like penalty his Majesty's Governors and Commanders-in-chief are liable to '

But in regard there is likewise no penalty upon those who shall refuse to make such nomination, and that after his Majesty has approved of such person so nominated to be the Governor, there being no power invested in his Majesty by the said Act either to remove such Governor for misdemeanour or to appoint another in his stead in case the Proprietor neglect to nominate one it is then to be feared such Governors, being under no check, will exercise an arbitrary power and promote the interest of their Proprietors and inhabitants by being favourable to the Scotch trade (as formerly). Besides, this last clause, chiefly intended for suppressing the Scotch trade in the Plantations does not (as I humbly conceive) answer the proposed end, for there is a great uncertainty in it, in regard the Proprietors are altered and changed upon every sale (as those of the Jerseys) having by the said Act liberty to sell and dispose of their lands at their pleasure ; and although some of the Proprietors are noblemen and persons of honour (Mr Penn aforesaid pretending ever to be very zealous for the interest of the present Government) yet
it

it is not known how soon both his and the other proprieties may fall into the hands of persons less regarding the interest and advantage of the Crown.

The several Proprieties are extended above a thousand miles upon the Continent of America. The Scots have a long time tasted the sweetness of the Trade to our Plantations, they paying no duties to his Majesty for the goods they import to the Plantations nor for the Tobacco they carry from thence to Scotland directly, so that they can thereby sell their goods at far cheaper rates and give a better price to the inhabitants for their tobacco than the English merchants can do which is not to be prevented but by a clause to invest the dominion of all those proprieties in his Majesty in like manner as are the Governments of Virginia Maryland and Barbadoes . which will in no wise invade or disturb the property the owners and inhabitants have to the soil, and all the profits and advantages arising from it, but the contrary

All which is humbly submitted by

ED: RANDOLPH.

[Endorsed as received 8th and read 11th March.]

CLII.

SANSOM ON THE CASE OF JOHN GRAVES.

Board of Trade, Proprieties, Vol. XXV. p. 58.

March 24th

Let^r from M^r Sansom
ab^t the Proceedings of
y^e Co^miss^rs of the Customs
towards M^r Graves upon
M^r Bulkley's Petition

Letter from M^r Sansom
Secretary of the Custome-
house, about the Proceedings of those
Commiss^rioners towards M^r Graves
upon M^r Bulkley's Petition.

Journal B }
fol. 43 }

S^r

I received your Letter of the 17th Instant with a
Copy of a Petition presented to the Lords Commissioners of
the Council of Trade by M^r Thomas Bulkley,⁴⁵⁶ Reflecting Se-
verely upon M^r John Graves appointed to go over in the
Service of the Commissioners of the Customs to the Bahama
Islands And at their first Meeting after the receipt of your
said Letter I laid the same before them. And upon perusal
thereof they Directed M^r Randolph who had Recommended
M^r Graves to them to attend them forth with together with
the said Graves since which M^r Randolph and M^r Graves
have attended the Commissioners and M^r Randolph ac-
quainted

fol. 54

⁴⁵⁶ The case of Bulkley of Providence was a very serious one. He had been Deputy Secretary of the Bahamas and had quarrelled with Cadwallader Jones, the Governor, on account of the latter's entertainment of pirates, and had finally succeeded in getting him imprisoned. Jones in his turn was rescued by the pirates, and Graves, at Jones's

instigation, sacked Bulkley's house, killed his wife (as he said) with fright and imprisoned him for fourteen months (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1696. no. 681). In spite of this, the Board were inclined to confirm Graves's appointment (no. 877), but finally were convinced of the justice of Bulkley's accusations (no. 1400).

quainted them That being directed to propose to the Board the Names of Persons to be imployed in the English Colonies in America in Order to the better Execution of the Acts of Trade and Navigation and more Effectual prevention of Frauds there, he did make the best Enquiry he could for Persons Qualified for the said Service, and amongst others the said M^r Graves had been named to him. That till that time he had no knowledge of the said M^r Graves, and he appearing to have been appointed to be Attorney General in the Island of Providence by the Authority of M^r Trott then Governour there he was thereby induced to propose him; M^r Graves produced to the Commissioners the Authority he had at that time from Governour Trott to be Attorney General in the said Island and would have gone on to Defend himself in the Matter charged against him by the Petition of M^r Bulkley But the Commissioners acquainted him That this matter was under a Proper Examination before the Lords Commissioners of the Council of Trade And because he was Questionable there for Matters of no Small Importance They thought it necessary to recall the Authority the said Graves had received from this Board And accordingly the said M^r Graves hath delivered up his Commission And the Commissioners have under Consideration to appoint another Person in his stead. This is what I have in Command to Signifie to You and am

S^r:Your most humble Serv^t:J^N^o SANSOM

Custome-house London

23^d March 1696

CLIII.

CLIII.

BOARD OF TRADE TO RANDOLPH.

Board of Trade, Plantations General, Vol. XXXIV. p. 138.

Letter to M^r Randolph

S^r

Upon the intimation you lately gave to the Lords Commissioners of the Council of Trade and Plantations of your intended returne to America, Their Lordships being sensible of your great knowledge and Experience in all things relating to the Advantage and Improvement of his Majesty's Colonies in those parts have commanded me to desire you from time to time to give them an account of what soever you shall judge proper for their knowledge, in Order to his Majesty's Service, in any of those Colonies where you shall reside, or through which you shall pass.

1697
April 1st
Lett^r to M^r Randolph desiring him after his Arrival in y^e W. Indies, to give this Board an acc^t from time to time of w^t ever may be proper for their knowledge relating to y^e Plantations.

Answer fo. 295
Journal B. 49

I am

S^r &c

W [ILLIAM] P [OPPLE].

Whitehall

April the 1st 1697

CLIV.

BOARD OF TRADE TO RANDOLPH ABOUT A REVENUE CUTTER.

*Board of Trade, Maryland, Vol. IX. p. 91.*To Edward Randolph Esq^rS^r

Upon the desire of Col^l^d Nicholson Governour of Maryland; that a Veffell may be appointed to cruize upon that Coast, for hindering the mischeifs arising by Pyrates and illegal Trade; The Lords Commissioners of the Councill of Trade &c commanded me to enquire of M^r Sansome what had already been done upon any desire of the Commissioners of the Customs upon that Subject, and having received answer from him that the Commissioners of the Customs did lay before the Lords of the Treasury a Presentment to that purpose dated the 7th of Novemb^r last, but without mentioning what Effect it had; Their Lordships have now commanded me to enquire of you what has been done, or what you judge likely to be done thereupon, in order to their making such further application as they shall see expedient.

I am &c.

Whitehall

Aug^t 17th 1697

W [ILLIAM] P [OPPLE].

Journ^l B. 199
Answer fol. 94
Fol. 59.1697
Aug^t 17th
Letter to M^r Randolph about some Cruizing Veffels on the Coast of Virginia and Maryland &c.

CLV.

RANDOLPH'S ANSWER TO THE PRECEDING.

Board of Trade, Maryland, Vol. IX. p. 94.

To the Right Honourable the Lords
Commissiioners of the Council of Trade

May it please Your Lordships

By a Letter received from M^r Secretary Popple of the 17th

instant I am directed to informe what has Journ^l. B. 227

1697
Aug^t 31th
Mem^l from M^r
Randolph in answer
to a Letter writ him
some while ago,
relating to a Vessel
to cruize on the
Coast of Maryland

been done upon the presentment of the Com-
missioners of the Customs of the 7th of Novemb^r
past about a Vessel to cruize upon the Coast of
Maryland and Pensilvania, and what I judge like

to be done thereupon.

In answer thereto I humbly represent, That their Excel-
lencies the Lords Justices upon reading a Report of the
Commissiioners of the Customs of the 9th of January past con-
cerning a Vessel of 40 Tuns well manned, to be sent from
hence to Delaware &c. were pleased by their Order in Coun-
cill of the 6th of May past, to order that the Lords Commis-
sioners of the Admiralty should give the necessary Orders
for such a Vessel, if they had no Objections to the same, and
if they have, to report their Opinion to the Board, but I
know not what progresse their Lordships have made therein.

Certainly 'tis at present greatly for his Majesty's service
(seeing that the Master of the Vessel fitted out by Coll^l
Nicholson for that purpose is dead and the Vessel disposed of)
that another of like burthen be had, either in Maryland or
some

some other Plantation with a knowing and diligent Master and Sailers (who are to be of the Inhabitants) to cruize at the mouth, and in Delaware Bay, and other places to prevent the illegall Trade, But the sending such a Veffell from England, will be only a very great charge, neither will it in any sort answer the proposed end, for she may be had, and well mann'd and maintained in her Weare and Tare &c at far lesse charge in the Country, besides if they send a Master and Sailers that know their business from hence, they will not continue in the Service upon their bare wages, but be projecting to enrich themselves by indirect ways: Sometimes by taking money of the Scotch Traders, and others to connive at their frauds, and thereby elude the only intent of their going thither, being under no check or controule upon the place, or sometimes by oppression and exactions upon honest Traders, as has not long since been commonly practised by the Commanders of his Majesty's Frigats in Virginia, as severall of the Masters of Shippes belonging to Bristoll and other Out ports in England have just cause to complaine.

All which is humbly submitted
by

EDW : RANDOLPH.

CLVI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON HIS ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Hon^ded S^r

New York May 12^h 1698

I have given y^r Board an account of my Proceedings in Maryland,⁴⁵⁷ the Jerseys, & Pensilvania, to which I humbly referr y^r Hon^r. I arriv'd here the 22th of Aprill past where I find the Earle of Bellamont arrived & settled in the ffort; Leister⁴⁵⁸ arriv'd here much about the same time with an Act of Parliament . in favour of his father, which makes a very great faction in this Town; They are now divided upon the Poll for choosing members of their Affsembly with such heats, they can hardly be kept from shedding blood; If Leisters Party prevails forty or fifty of the Richest families in this town, will remove themselves & their Trade to Amboy, which lyes farr more conveniently for it then New York.

The loss of the Swift ffrigott⁴⁵⁹ is a great disapointment & hindrance to his Maj^{ties} affairs under my Care; I am come to this Place, to look for a passage to Carolina, the Bahama Ilands, & Bermudas, & depended upon the Earle of Bellamonts sending the fflowy ffrigott thither to look after Pyrates, which wou'd have given me both a Countenance & a secure
passage

⁴⁵⁷ *Supra*, Vol. V. p. 171.

⁴⁵⁸ This is Jacob Leisler the younger; the reversal of his father's attainder was carried in the House of Commons on 2d May, 1695, and received the Royal

Assent on 3d May (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1695, no. 1803).

⁴⁵⁹ *Supra*, Vol. II. p. 153, and Vol. V. p. 174.

passage to those Places but after staying here a month for that purpose, I am very uncertain whether his Lord^{sh} will send her or no.

I have inclosed to M^r Povey severall Papers which shew, that M^r Penns Govern^t has as little regard to the Acts of Trade as M^r Penn himselfe has to his Promises which he makes to the Ministers of State & others in England in rela^{ti}on to M^r Markham his Govern^{ts} putting in Execu^{ti}on the Acts of Trade in his Province of Pensilvania: Wishing the Continuance of health & happines to you & all y^r family I remain in all duty

y^r humble serv^t

ED RANDOLPH :.

M^r Blathwayte

[*Endorsed*] 12 May 1698
From M^r Randolph

CLVII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT APPLYING FOR THE POST OF
SURVEYOR OF TREES.

Board of Trade, New England, Vol. IX.

Hon^d S^t

New York. May 21 : 1698

You may please to remember that notwithstanding all the arguments vsed to prevent the Sending M^r Bridger & M^r Hurzer⁴⁶⁰ as Agents to Survey y^e woods in New Eng^d yet by

⁴⁶⁰ John Bridger and Benjamin Furzer (not Hurzer) were appointed to report on the condition of Naval Stores in New England in September, 1696 (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1696, no. 182).

by S^r Henry Ashursts Interest They were appointed & sent ouer to that purpose: M^r Bridger is going from here to Boston & Eastern parts being his Distrikt: M^r Hurzer dyed at Barbados. there is more reason to haue these parts Surveyed where are vast quantityes of great trees fitt for masts of the biggest dimentions: not yet medled with: nigh the water side & also vpon Coll Lewis Morris his Lands in the province of East New Jerse: & Oaken tymber enough to build a Navy. I desire you to gett a Warr^t from ye Treasury to be appointed to Succeed M^r Hurzer with the like Salary he had for his Service to be surveyor of the Woods in these parts of the world: It will be a great service to ye Crown & an obligation vpon S^r

Your humble Ser^t

ED. RANDOLPH

You may please to
remember that it was
vpon y^e first propofall that I
was made the Survey^r in N. Eng^d
& S^r He. Ashurst onely stopd my haueing
a new warr^t
M^r Blathwayt

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Blathwayt
at
Whitehall

[*Endorsed*] New-Engl^d
Fre from M^r Randolph to
M^r Blathwayt, ab^t Naval
Stores. Dated at New York
the 21th of May 1698

Communicated

Communicated to the
Board by M^r. Blathwayt

Rec^d. }
Read } July 6th 1698

Entr N. Eng^ld B. fol. 10

[*Also*] To Cap^t Richard Leader
aboard ye Depford
frigott

[In Randolph's handwriting]

CLVIII.

THE CASE OF PATRICK ROBINSON.

*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*⁴⁶¹

Phyladelphia, The Deposition of Edward Randolph Survey^r
Gener^l of His Maj^{ty}s Customes on the Continent
of America &c

Iuly 28th 1698 That being by accident at the Door of his Lodging on the 28th of July past in the dwelling house of Charles Read in Phyladelphia, Patrick Robinson a Scotchman, Sec^{ry}: of the Province of Pensilvania came to this Dept^t laying violent hands on him, in a great passion told this Dep^t he should not stirr from him, untill he had given him present satiffaction, for the wrong done by him by this Dep^t in shewing amongst other things in his representations made about March 169⁶/₇ to the R^{ty} Hon^{bl} the Lords Committees, appointed to consider the state of the trade of the Kingdom in the words following (that Patrick Robinson a
Scotchman

⁴⁶¹ The whole of the episode here narrated at length is summarized by Randolph in his report to the Board of

Trade, *supra*, Vol. V. p. 218. The allegation that Robinson was a Scotsman is found *supra*, Vol. I. p. 158.

Scotchman was the Sec^{ry} of the Province of Pensilvania) urging that it was mentioned wth reflections upon him or the Govern^t: he used all manner of Infulting and rude language (not fitt to be spoaken) on purpose to provoke this Dep^t: by word or otherwise to giue him Occasion to complain against him to M^r Markham the Prop^{rs}: Gouern^t: the said Robinfon continued so enraged that he followed this Dep^t: up to his Chambers, where he stayd a long time and wold not be gone till this Dep^t: had wrote a Paper, of w^{ch} the Inclosed N^o 1 is a Copy —

That this Dep^t: about March last stayd 5 or 6 weeks in Phyladelphia and in all that time heard nothing from the Sec^{ry}: but it hapned that one John Moorehead a Scotchman had his Veffell and loading under seizure, by the Officer at Phyladelphia, And that this Dep^t: was very pressing on M^r Markham to haue Blackleaches bond of £1000: forfeited to his Maj^{ty}: to be presented in w^{ch} George Jefferies another Scotchman was principally concernd All w^{ch} togeather wth this Dep^t: declaring that their Law about Trade lately made in that Province was directly opposite to the Cheif clausēs in the Act for preventing frauds, &c. and by that Act was made void, were (as this Dep^t: beleiuēs) the cheif grounds of the said Robinfons rude and undecent behaviour towards him who ought to be secure, and alwaies protected by that & other acts of Parliament from all Affronts and violence

July 29. This Dep^t: further maketh Oath that being at M^r Markham's house the next day (where 2 of his Quaker Councill, and the Sec^{ry}: were mett) he proposed the necessity of M^r Markham's Appointing an Atturney Gener^l to profecute plantacon bonds, forfeited to his Maj^{ty}, he replied

he

he knew none in the Province fitt to be trusted with them, and demanded these bonds w^{ch} by his own order were delivered to this Dep^t (then in Collⁿ Quarrys⁴⁶² Custody) to be delivered to him.

This Depo^t further faith, that after he and other Commiff^{rs} had administred the Oath to M^r Markham the Gouvern^r on the 17 March 1697 he left the Commis^o wth M^r Robinfon the Sec^{ry}: in the Prefence of Iasper Yeates & Richard Holliwell Esq^{rs} two of the Commis^{rs} to be recorded and afterwards to be delivered to M^r Jasper Yeates, (as appears by a Copy of M^r Holliwells paper N^o 2) but this Dep^t finding the Commis^o still in the hands of the Sec^{ry}:, desired M^r Markham that it might be placed in the Custody of Coll^r Robert Quarry another of the Commis^{rs} and an Inhabitant in Town, but M^r Markham & his two Councillors told this Dep^t it should remaine wth the Sec^{ry}: The 30th of Iuly (the Day this Dep^t was going from Phyladelphia to N. York) he sent M^r Markham a Letter, of w^{ch} N^o 3 is a Copy who upon receipt thereof sent for this Dep^t and placing a Constable wth his staff at the Door, imprisoned him in his house for questioning whether he was allow'd and approved of by his Maj^{ts} orders in Councill, to be the Gouvern^r of that Province, and also required this Dep^t to deliver up to him Stephen Blackleaches⁴⁶³ forfeited Plantacon^{††} bond, which with Clarks Bond were by his own order to the Sec^{ry}: given to this Dep^t

⁴⁶² This is the first mention in this correspondence of Robert Quarry, an active officer who had been Secretary of South Carolina, where he was succeeded by Paul Grimball, for whom see *post*, Letter CLXII. He had himself

been accused of harbouring pirates (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1687, no. 1165).

⁴⁶³ For Blackleach, see *supra*, Vol. V. p. 285.

Dep^t to proceed againſt John De Plovy, Blackleaches ſecurity, who was areſted, and ſo was Clark by this Deponents order but noe further Proſecution had thereupon for want of an Atturney Generall This Dep^t being unwilling to be ſtopt in regard the Fowy ffriggott was ready at New York, to transport him to Bermudes, ſent to Collⁿ Quarry to bring thoſe Bonds with him to M^r Markham's houſe, who was Impatient till this Dep^t had deliverd him Blackleaches bônd, but he refused to take W^m Clarks Bond of £500: late Collect^r of the Cuſtomes in Penſilvania, forfeited for not paying £370: due upon Acco^o under his hand to his Maj^{ty} w^{ch} this Dep^t left wth M^r Bewly the Collect^r of the Cuſtomes in Phyladelphia to be proſecuted when his Maj^{ty} can haue Juſtice done him in the Courts in that Province

ED. RANDOLPH S : G :

New York 8 Aug^t 1698

Iuratt Coram me

W^m Merrett . Mayor.

[*Endorſed*] Depoſition

Ed : Randolph

N^o 3 :

N York : 8 Aug : 98

R^d 18 Nov

A. Being about two years agoe ordred by the Committee of the houſe of Lords Spirituall & Temporall to giue their Lords^{ps} an Account of the ſeverall Governments, and their Miniſters upon the Continent of America, I did in Anſwer thereunto inform their Lordſp^s that M^r Penn was Proprietary of the Province of Penſilvania, M^r W^m Markham Deputy Govern^r

Govern^r and M^r Patrick Robinson Sec^{ry}: a Scotchman without any Personal reflection upon him or the Governm^t in so writing.

ED RANDOLPH

Phyladelphia, July 28 — 1698 —

B. Memorandum, That the Commiff^o for adminiftring the Oath to the Govern^r. after the Oath was adminiftered, was deliverd by Edward Randolph Efqr^t to M^r Patrick Robinson to be Recorded and afterwards to be deliverd to M^r Iafper Yeates.

RICHARD HALLIWELL

Phyladelphia Iuly $\frac{28}{1698}$

C.

S^r/

Phyladelphia Iuly 30 1698 —

Some time fince I left Blackleaches, and Clarks Bonds wth Coll^r Quarry and haue his receipt for them, he is ready to produce them, when he finds an Atturney Generall appointed by you to profecute them to Effect, or foner will put them into your hands, *when you are by his Maj^{ty}s order in Councill approved and allowed off, to be the Govern^r of this Province*, as by the a^{ct} for preventing ffrauds in the Planta^{co}n trade is Enacted, and not till then.

I defire when thofe Bonds are profecuted, that the Bond of the Master of Guftavus Hamilton's veffell who loaded Tobacco in your Gouvernm^t about 2 or 3 years agoe, may be likewise profecuted, I fhall not forgett a Copy of the Iudgment upon D, Harts Bond, I am

Y^r Hum^b : Serv^t

ED RANDOLPH :

To

To M^r Markham
Liev^t Govern^r of the Province
Penfilvania

CLIX.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE PROPRIETARY
GOVERNMENTS.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Hon S^r New York 25th Aug^t 1698

The following discourse shews as followes,
M^r Penns Deputy Govern^r not Approved by His Maj^{ty} Order
in Councill.

Neither when he rec^d his Commiffion to be Liev^t Govern^r in
May laft

Scotchmen frequent Penfilvania more then Ordinary, One
made Navall Officer by M^r Markham

Scotchmen are continued in places of Trust in Penfilvania
Govern^{rs} in the Proprietys, haue taken the Oaths not in
Obedience to the a^cts of Parliament but to faue the fforfeit-
ure of £1000: fterd^l

Law made in Penfilvania in Oposition to the A^ct for pre-
venting Frauds

M^r Markham illtreatment to me, for enquiring whether he
had his Maj^{ty} Approbation by Order in Councill

Inhabitants of East and West new Jerseys, refusing M^r
Baffe to be their Govern^r

Perfons not capable, If to be Approved of by His Maj^{ty}
Order

Order in Councill wold not be made Govern^{rs} of the Proprietys

French Gouvernm^t fummons the 5 Nations to submitt to the Crown of France in 40 dayes, and threatens to ruin them upon refusall

Upon notice the L^d Bellomont sent foldiers, for the Releif, a greater Number of Soldiers required to defend Virginia & Maryland

If the Inhabitants are put of ffrom Planting the Crown will loose £3 or £400000 ster^d: yearly upon the Dutyes of Tobacco

Haueing mett with feveral disapointments to transport me to Carolina besides the Losse of the Swifft Frygott, I am now going to Carolina, and from thence to the Bahama Islands, and haueing toucht att Bermudes intend for Virginia & Mary-land

S^r

It was with great difficulty that the Act for preventing Frauds and regulateing abuses in the Plantacon Trade,⁴⁶⁴ was obtaind: One principall end thereof was to bring the Governm^{ts} of the Proprietys to a dependance on the Crown: by their Govern^{rs} being first allowed and approved of by His Maj^{ty}. Order in Councill to be such, before entring upon their Respective Governm^{ts}. But M^r Penn in contempt of that act has not recomended His Deputy Govern^r M^r Markham for His Maj^{ty}. Approbacon:

I

⁴⁶⁴ This is the Act Will. III. 7 and 8, Cap. 22, entitled an Act for Preventing Frauds and Regulating Abuses in the Plantation Trade. Randolph had had a good deal to do with its shaping, if not with its inception. See the *Introduction*.

I was advized by a Lett^r from Coll^r Quarry, Judge of the Court of Admiralty in Pensilvania that (notwithstanding a New Law made by the Affembly in May last, of w^{ch} the Inclosed is a Copy,⁴⁶⁵ wherein amongst other things they Utterly damn the Court of Admiralty) he was resolved to hold a Court for Tryall of the seizure of a sloop and her loding from N: York: That M^r Penn had made his Kinsman M^r Markham His Liev^t Govern^r of the Province to giue a greater Reputacōn to his Governm^t But had not sent him his Maj^{ty} Order in Councill for his approbation: neither had he the Oath upon changing the title from Dep^t to Liev^t Gouvern^r legally administred to him whereupon I thought it for His Maj^{ty} service to hasten thither to informe myself more perticularly of those Matters

I arrived the 22 July past att Phyladelphia where three of the officers of the admiralty were wanting, and advized wth Coll^r Quarry to write to Govern^r Nicholson to appoint others to succeed them M^r Markham upon his being made Liev^t Govern^r gott three of His Councill, and the Collector of the Customes to giue him the Oath privately altho by the Commis^s he was to be sworn by a Quoram of the persons therein nominated: They were all but One in Town he that was absent was ready to do it, if he had had notice, haueing that time rec^d a Letter from M^r Markham but not one word of that businesse in it

I neuer observed so many Scotch M^rchants in Pensilvania as this year, and as I am informd in Virginia & Maryland
also,

⁴⁶⁵ Randolph had already sent a copy V. p. 177, under date of 26th April, of the law alluded to. See *supra*, Vol. 1698.

also, they are very much elevated, and support themselves upon the Opinion of the Attur : & Soll^r Gener^{ll} upon the proviso in the Act for preventing frauds &c relating to Scotchmen ⁴⁶⁶

You may please to remember that upon the first notice of the Scotch act for Erecting an East India Comp^a in the kingdom of Scotland, The Parliament foreseeing the Mischiefs thereby arising to the Trade of England, was mightily alarm'd at it, And voted that all the Members of that Comp^a were guilty of High Misdemean^{rs} ⁴⁶⁷ And also did (or intend to) address his Maj^{ty} to know who were the persons that Advised him to the passing that pernicious act

Now I have since my being in Phyladelphia great reason to believe that M^r Penn was acquainted with it. For I find Jn^o Donaldson a Scotchman now Appointed by M^r Markham the Navall Officer and continued the Maj^r of the Forces at Newcastle, And Patrick Robinson another Scotchman the Sec^{ry}: continued in his Office altho M^r Penn did most solemnly protest to me soon after I had represented to the House of Lords, amongst other things, that Patrick Robinson the Sec^{ry}: was a Scotchman, &c; That neither he nor any other Scotchman should hold any place of trust or Proffit in the Province, ⁴⁶⁸

It is to be observed that the present Govern^{rs} in the Proprietys have taken the Oaths enjoyned by the Act for preventing

⁴⁶⁶ This is clause IX, which begins: "whereas great frauds have been committed by Scotchmen and others (by false and counterfeit certificates)."

⁴⁶⁷ *Manuscripts of the House of Lords*, Vol. II. pp. 3-62.

⁴⁶⁸ *Ibid.* p. 442. Penn's reply (pp. 455-456) does not bear out Randolph's statement as to the dismissal of Scotsmen, though he certainly does say that if the King pleased, Markham should be removed.

preventing Frauds to be administred to all Govern^{rs} &c. Altho not in Obedience to an Act of Parliament, but to avoid the paym^t of £1000 : ster^d. forfeited by that act upon their neglect or refusall,⁴⁶⁹ But in other Matters relateing to the Acts of Trade, or Propriet^{rs} Govern^{rs} where no penalties are by Law inflicted on them for NonObservance, They looke on themselves not obliged to take notice of them, As that of Obtaining his Maj^{ty} Order in Councill, allowing and approving of them to be Govern^{rs}, Which because all those Govern^{rs} haue refused to do, Yett are entred upon their Respective Governm^{ts} and presume to Exercise all the Powers and Trusts reposed by the severall Acts of Trade in His Maj^{ty} Gouvern^{rs} to be done by them Onely in the Plantacons I haue therefore humbly enclose a Copy of Queries sent to my Mast^{rs} at the Custom house, praying they may be refird to M^r Attur: and Soll^r Gen^{ll} to report there Opinion thereupon: Now if it appears they are not Govern^{rs} legally qualified, Nor the Persons intended to be intrusted in putting the Acts of Trade in Execution, so farr as appertaines to his Maj^{ty} Gouvern^{rs} and Commanders in Cheif respectively, Then I humbly propose it necessary for His Maj^{ty} service, and for the suppressing the Scotch and Other Illegall trade, that an act be passed the next session of Parliam^t to annex all the Proprietys to the Crown so farr as concerns Governm^t and trade, reserving . alwaies the Right, Interest and Property in the soyle to the Owners, & Propriet^{rs} thereof, Otherwise tis impossible for the Govern^{rs} & officers in His Maj^{ty} Plantacons to haue the Acts of Trade & Naviga^{con} duely observed
in

⁴⁶⁹ Clause III, of the Act.

in their Governm^{ts} and districts, w^{ch} is a farr greater Favour then was granted to Virginia & Barbados, for they lost Governm^t and soyle too: and in the mean time that those Govern^{rs} be comanded upon their perill to do no act of Governm^t and also that M^r Markham be directed forthwith to pay all such summs of mony due to His Majesty and others w^{ch} he illegally and unjustly detaines

I inclose likewise N^o 2 a Copy of their New Law made in Oposition to the Principall clausfes in the act for preventing Frauds, entituled an act for preventing Frauds and Regulat-
ing abuses in the Province of Pensilvania &c.

In their second Law they encourage Illegal Trade

In the fourth they giue themselves a generall dispensa-
tion for not takeing the Oaths enjoyned by the severall
acts of Trade

In the fifth they att once damn the Court of Admi-
ralty erected in that Province

As also N^o 3 w^{ch} is a Copy of my Deposition sent to the Custome house shewing the illtreatment I mett wth in Pen-
silvania from M^r Markham for Enquiring whether he was
approved of by His Maj^{ty} Order in Councill, and what the
Officers of His Maj^{ty} Customes must expect in the Pro-
prietys, where tis the interest of the Proprietors of the
Govern^{rs} and also of the Inhabitants to make them quitt
their stations, unless they will conniue att the Irregularities
in their Governm^{ts} and att their Scotch and other Illegall
trade —

The Propriet^{rs} of the Ierseys haue commiffionated Jere-
miah Basse an Annabaptist Preach^r to be their Govern^r of
the two Jerseys, but following M^r Penns example haue not
gott

gott his Maj^{ty} Order in Councill for his approbation, In so much that the Most & best men of Estates in both Provinces will not accept of him to be their Govern^r. Nor will pay any obedience to him: When Coll^l Hamilton was the Govern^r, he brought in severall of his Countrymen and preferd them, who with the Antikeithean Quakers are labouring wth the Expen^{ce} of som mony, to gett him restored to be their Govern^r. But the Keithean Quakers and all the Church of England men are rather for haueing a sober man sent wth His Maj^{ty} Commis^s to be their Govern^r. The Country will raise him 500^l a year rather then be brought under New York

Count Frontinack the French Govern^r att Canada has sent a summons to the 5 Nations of Indians, not being aboue 1100 fighting men, to submit and come under the Obedience of the King of France within 40 dayes, other-wise upon their refusall he will declare them Rebels, and March against them in Person wth an Army, and destroy them and all they haue —

On the 19 Ins^t the Mayor of Albany, accompanied wth the Gener^{ls} of the 5 Nations arrived here, and acquainted the Earl of Bellomont of it, His Lords^p cald a Councill, and has sent up Cap^t Nanfan the Liev^t Govern^r wth a Comp^a of men to Albany, tis hoped the 5 Nations will unanimously Joyn to oppose the French and divert their designs, otherwise if they leaue the English Interest and go to the French, Virginia, Maryland, and Pensilvania, (except M^t Penn be in amity wth the French) will be Over runn, when they please to sett the Indians upon that service, w^{ch} will cost the Crown a great sum of money to recover, and protect those plantations from like Invasions for the Future

Tis

Tis certain the Quakers made no Provision in the late warr for defence of the Province against the French, and threatned to punish those who intended to petition His Maj^{ty} for leaue to raise men & mony for security of themselves, and the Country —

I hear the Parliam^t were resolved to break the 4 Comp^a at N: York, there is more reason to make them up a full Regiment, If the Inhabitants of Virginia & Maryland, are once more disturbed in their planting by which they gain but little his Maj^{ty} will loose £3 or 400000:ft yearly in his Customes on Tobacco, besides the losse of the Trade for Beavours, and other Peltry at Albany w^{ch} requires consideration

I am going from hence to Carolina to administer the Oath to the Govern^r who as I am informd drives at all, and from thence to Providence. Cap^t Webb has perplexed the People by his heavy oppressions and has thought of retireing, but knows not well where, except at Pensilvania wth His Brother Markham

Certainly if that Clause in the act for preventing frauds directing Govern^{rs} first to be approved of by His Maj^{ty}s Order in Councill, were duely considered and Observed, W^m Patridge a Millright, wold not be Liev^t Gouvern^r of the Province of New Hampshire, Nor John Cranston Master of a small Vessell Gouvern^r of Road Island Ieremiah Basse an Anabaptist Preacher Govern^r of the Provinces of the East & West New Jerseys, Nor M^r Markham after so many complaints of His Arbitrary Governm^t and his Open Violation of the Acts of Trade and breach of his Instructions signd by the late Lords Justices w^{ch} he was sworn to Obserue,
wold

would not be still continued Governour of the Province of Pensilvania

My humble service to the two Young Gentlemen, and to Little Miss wth the returns of my humble thanks, for all Favours I Remain

My humble service to y^r
sister Blathwait

Y^r most humile seru:
ED. RANDOLPH

To M^r Blathwait

[*Endorsed*] N York
25. Aug
98
From M^r
Randolph
R^d 18 Nov
93
Relating to
Pensilvania

CLX.

RANDOLPH'S QUERIES AS TO PROPRIETARY GOVERNORS.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Queries humbly proposed, arising upon One Clause in the Act made in the 7 & 8th year of His present Maj^{ty} Reign Intituled An Act for preventing frauds, & regulating abuses in the Plantation trade, relating to Proprietors Govern^{rs}.

Wherein It is Enacted, thatt all Persons and their assignes claiming any Right or Propriety, in any Islands, or Tracts of Land upon the Continent of America, by Charter or Letters

Letters Patents, shall not att any time hereafter, alien, sell or dispose of any of the said, Islands, Tracts of Land or Proprietys, other then to the Naturall born subjects of England, Ireland, Dominion of Wales or Town of Berwick upon Tweed without the Licence, and Consent of His Maj^{ty} His Heirs & Success^{rs} signified by His or their Order in Councill first had & Obtained, And all Govern^{rs} Nominated, and Appointed by such Persons or Proprietors who shall be intituled to make such Nomination, shall be allowed and approved of by His Maj^{ty} His Heirs and Success^{rs} as aforesaid, And shall take the Oaths Enjoyned by this or any other act to be taken by the Govern^{rs} or Commanders in Cheif in any other His Maj^{ty} Colonies & Plantacon^s before their Enttring upon their Respective Governm^{ts} under the like Penalties, His Maj^{ty} Govern^{rs} and Commanders in Cheif are by the said Acts Liable to

1: Whether any Person nominated and appointed by the Propriet^{rs} not being first allowed of by His Maj^{ty} Order in Councill to be the Govern^r in their Propriety haue any Right or Power to put in Execution any of the Matters and things required by the Acts of Trade to be Observed and done by the Govern^{rs} appointed by his Maj^{ty} Commiff^r in the Plantacons, under His Maj^{ty} immediate Authority viz^t

To demand and receiue of any Master of a Vessell ariving in their Propriety a true and perfect Inventory or Invoice, of Her Loding, and the place where the said goods were loden, under the pain and Losse of the Ship or Vessell, upon the Masters neglect thereof

Or have power to Appoint a Navall Officer to take Plantacon Bonds or

2 Whether a Proprietors Govern^t haueing taken the Oath as by the act of 15 : Car : 2 Entituled an act for the Encouragem^t of Trade, as also by the act for preventing ffrauds is Enacted &c. being found after takeing such Oath, Wittingly and Willingly to haue Offended contrary to what is by the said act required of them, shall for such Offence be turned out of His Governm^t and forfeit the sum of £1000 : Lawfull mony of England

3 Whether such Govern^t have Right by the Acts of Trade, to haue and receiue One third part of all Veffells, and their Loading forfeited in His Governm^t upon breach of any of the said Acts of Trade

4 Whether the Govern^{rs} in the Colonies of Connecticott & Road Island being According to their Charter Annually Chosen, are not as to the acts of Trade in like Circumstances wth the Govern^{rs} in the Proprietys :

[signed] ED RANDOLPH : S : G :

(Verte)

5. Whether Plantacon Bonds are not Employed in the Words (all the Penalties, and forfeitures before menconed) in the Act for preventing Frauds &c, And whether Plantacon Bonds forfeited upon Breach of the Acts of Trade may not be tryd in the Court of Admiralty held in His Maj^{ty} Plantacons if the Officer or Informer please to prosecute in that Court

[*Endorsed*] Queries

CLXI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE AFFAIRS OF NEW YORK.

*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*S^r

New York 12 Sept 1698.

After my tedious stay here for a passage, I am in Fiue or fix dayes makeing a tripp from hence to Carolina, to trye the temper of the Inhabitants in that Propriety, The Ierseys are now at great Variance about Govern^t but the One Province differs much from the Others in Constitution yett both agree to lay aside M^r Basse, who (as these alledge) was sent by the Farr smaller Number of the Proprietys to be their Govern^t I am told lately that he will voluntarily make a surrender, of His Govern^t to prevent their laying hold on him for Ufurpation, I leaue them to end the quarrell, Some of them are for adresssing his Maj^{ty} that they may be united to the Gouvern^t of N York, (as tis absolutely necessary Connecticut also ought to be,) but they stand off to see an Issue of the present heats w^{ch} haue lately arisen amongst the Menn of Trade and bufineffe in this place . Since the Departure of the Late Govern^r

I was in N York when S^r Edmund Androfs was Govern^r I observed the English & Dutch lived very quiett, & in Freindship, then the Trade was but in a few hands, Butt since Pyratts (then called Privateers) haue frequented & been Incouraged here, the Citty is greatly increased in building & become very Populous, and aboue thirty faile of Veffells belong to the Town, more then when S^r Edmund Androfs was Govern^r For the Merch^{ts} haue Exceeded their bounds, and lanced out into an Extravagant and Illegall Trade,

Trade, by w^{ch} from very low beginings they are grown rich, and now become mutinous becaue [*sic*] the Earle of Bellomont according to his Oath, has put the Act for preventing Frauds &c. in Execution

Their Veffells & goods haue been lately feizd, & condemn'd, yett they are refolved to goe on and haue fent 4 or 5 more to Madagafcar & 15 to Curafaw, this fummer, & will runn all hazards to carry on that Trade. And now following the Example of the Quakers in Penfilvania they fett up for a Free trade, And therefore agreed to lett the whole revenue finck and beloſt w^{ch} Expires in May next, crying out we are Free born, & will not longer pay Cuſtomes to Maintaine the Governm^t, whilſt Neighbouring Proprietys are not taxed but inſtead of Cuſtomes they propoſe to raiſe a ſupport for the Governm^t by Taxes w^{ch} expire at their Pleaſure

All the noiſe and Crye they make againſt the Earl of Bellomont is not againſt his Lordſps. perſon, but againſt the Act of Parliam^t w^{ch} his Lordſp. is ſworn to obſerue, And ſhould his Maj^{ty} ſend another Govern^t to morrow, carefull as his Lordſ^p in relation to their trade, they would be as mutinous as they are now

Beleieve me S^r I am a tranſcient Perſon, and Eſpouſe no Party haue no more Interſt to driue here, then in Penſilvania Or in any of the Other Proprietys: Tis true we haue Peace in Europe, but how long we may Enjoy it wth our French Neighbours God Onely Knows.

I am very ſenſible as I haue lately wrote home, of the ruin w^{ch} will inevitably fall upon the poor helples (Inhabitants) Planters in Maryland & Virginia who if but Once more put off from Planting (now Tobacco pays 6^d Duty upon

upon Every pound carryed to England, will never be brought to that slavery againe) None better knows then yourself what great losse the Revenue will sustaine, if the Customes in N York should sinck.

And now haueing thus farr discoursed the Publick giue me leaue to tell you, that your Yearly salary ariseing upon the standing Revenue of this Province, will be lost also, if the Custome house be pulled down as it has been in my hearing lately threatned, I goe thither sometimes to take notice of the Entryes, you may see what improuement is made by diligent officers by the inclosed quarterly receipt

I know some Merch^{ts} in N: York, haue lately bought lotts at Amboy to build upon in hopes they may gett that made a Port of Entring and cleering, and to haue no dependance or relacon to N York: S^r please to consider the present Circumstances of Affaires, in these Parts of the World, it appears by a Vowed Practice of the Prop^{rs} at home in sending out Govern^{rs} to their Proprietys not first allowed of by His Maj^{ty} Order in Councill, That They care not for an act of Parliament, all aiming at Liberty in Trade, & will not be Obstructed by Law:

The Proprietyes Lay intermixt wth his Maj^{ty} Plantacons, tis not long since Connecticutt raised men to oppose Collⁿ Fletcher (haueing her Maj^{ty} Commiff^o to be the Govern^r) wth a Force, and will doe the same to the Earl of Bellomont tomorrow if his Lords^p went on that design, They regard not the Persons of their Govern^{rs} but will Value those Onely, and will stand by them, Who like M^r Penns Govern^r will runn all adventures to support & encourage them in their Illegall Trade, & share in the Proffitt

Now

Now if York should gett to a head Their Brethren in N: England will Ioyn wth them, and Virginia & Maryland, tho they haue not shipping will Freight upon Veffells to any merkett where they can fell their Tobacco, paying but little or no Custome

I am now (as I haue wrote) leaueing this Country God onely knows whether I shall return, What I haue here offered is onely for the advantage of the Crown, and the true happineffe of those Plantacons

As for Pensilvania M^r Penn takes care for them, he has a Thopaced Govern^r and has sent over nigh 400 men & women this summer to increafe the new fettlements in his Province of w^{ch} are 100 Dutchmen, They are called Quakers, As many of the French were called Refugees, I hear of noe Armes, nor that M^r Penn has a sword, but he not long since wrote me in his Letter that he must thro away his scabbard —

I humbly intreat Your Pardon for this Trouble, tis not Letters nor Laws will bring these Levellers to Obedience, till they are severely managed wth a streight Reine, The Time is now, And the Methods are to be speedily sent from home, Otherwise the Damages will not be repaired but by Extraordinary charge

I remain in all duty .

Y^r Lord^{ps} most humble ser^t

ED RANDOLPH : .

[*Endorfed*] N York :

12 Sept: 1698

From M^r Randolph

R^d 19 Nov. 98

M^r Blathwayt.

CLXII.

RANDOLPH'S ARTICLES AGAINST THE GOVERNOR OF SAINT AUGUSTINE.

Articles against Don Laurence Deloris Y Aijalea,
(aged about 50) Govern^r of the Town & Castle of S^t
Augustines belonging to y^e Spanjards

1 That in August 1686 a hundred Spanjards, Indians & Negroes, came from S^t Augustines in three Pereagoes, And by Virtue of a Commiffcon from the said Góvern^r, (in time of Peace between the Crown of England & Spain,) entred upon & Invaded the Lands & Territoryes of his Most Sacred Maj^{ty} King William the third, lying within the fouthern Bounds of the Province of South Carolina⁴⁷⁰

2 That they destroyed a great Settlement at Port Royall made by the Lord Cardrofs, & Cap^t Hamilton, & other Scotch Gent: & forced them to fly for their Lives

3 That in the fame Month they landed at Edistoë Island, & broak Open the dwelling house of M^r Joseph Mourton⁴⁷¹ then Govern^r of the said Provinces, and robbed him of his money & plate during his being at Charles Town, & Forceably carryed away M^r Edward Bowell his Bro: in law, and 13 slaves with them & all their Plunder, worth above £1500: to S^t Augustine

4

⁴⁷⁰ There is an allusion to this raid in a letter of the Proprietors to James Colleton, their Governor, who was appointed on 30th August, 1686, just after the affair (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1687, no. 1457).

⁴⁷¹ Joseph Moreton was apparently superseded by Colleton, who was directed by the Proprietors, on 3d March, 1687, to arrest Moreton on the charge of harbouring pirates.

4 That in the said Month of August in a hostile manner they broake Open the dwelling house of M^r Paul Grimball Sec^{ry}: of the said Province during the time of his Attending the Govern^r & Councill to Charles Town, they spoild & made havock of all the goods & household stufte in the Howse, they likewise killd & destroyd all the Cattle they could find upon the Plantation, by which he lost above £1000:—

5 That they in a hostile manner killed the said M^r Bowell, and a Scotchmann who was fled from Port Royall at M^r Paul Grimballs Plantation

6 That the said Govern^r has refused to deliver up the 11 slaves, taken from Govern^r Mourton, (tho demanded) saying they are become Christians & in the King of Spains pay, That he cannot deliver them without the King of Spains Order, That they likewise keep Andrew Ranfom an English subject a Prisoner, in their ffoort, he has been there Eleven years —, but represented home by None of them

Charles town in Carolina

ED RANDOLPH:

March: 19th 1698

[*Endorfed*] Articles ag^t y^e Spannish Gon^r
at S^t Augustine

CLXIII.

RANDOLPH TO SAVAGE ON HIS ARRIVAL IN BERMUDA.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

S^r

Bermuda April 5th 1699.

This is by an unexpected Opportunity meeting here with Captain Briscoe Comander of the Sun frigott French Prize

I find by M^r Samuel Trott the Collector that hee Imported (as a present from S^t Christophers made to him) Seaven h^{ds} of Muscavado Sugar into this Government, his Excellency Coll^d Day⁴⁷² the Governor bought itt on purpose to Supply Captⁿ Briscoes present Occasions, being a Stranger upon the Place, the Captaine alledges that 'tis Customary for Comanders of his Majesties Shippes of Warr to have an allowance of Two Tuns dutys, I am unwilling to bee Judge in this matter I think if to any, Very properly to Captaine Briscoe Comeing into this port where Every thing is Sold att Excessive prizes S^t I recomend him to your favorable assistance, his Excellency the Governor desires mee to give you his humble Service please to Accept the Same from S^t

Yo^r Oblidged humble Serv^t

EDW^d RANDOLPH

[*Addressed*] Directed to M^r Salvage
of the Custom house
London

Exam^d p Charles Minors

Secretary

CLXIV.

⁴⁷² Samuel Day, son of Sir Thomas Day, was appointed Governor of the Bermudas on 7th August, 1697, chiefly, it would appear, through the interest of Lord Stamford (*Calendar of State*

Papers, America and West Indies, 1697, nos. 1151, 1227). According to Randolph he had been an unsuccessful linen-draper.

CLXIV.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT CONCERNING CAROLINA.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

about Mines : & frauds with Gon^r of Carolina

HON^d. S^r.

Bermuda . Aprill 8th 1699.

Before I came from Carolina I wrote you⁴⁷³ by the ship Carolina Merc^t of Bristoll Thomas Scretch M^r That One Cutler was lately arrived there from London : & made it a secret, that he & One Green were employed by the Earles of Pembroke & Bridgewater & y^r selfe to find out a silver Mine in that province, w^{ch} Edw^d Loughton & One Maybanks (house carpenters living both in Charles town) had promised to discover to them . being at the Savanar town belonging to the Indians about 120 miles west from Charles Town & that they had received 200^{ll} a peece to defray their expences.

I wrote then a letter to y^e Earl of Bridgewater & inclosed a copy of a letter sent me by Cap^t James Moore about Mines (he is one of the Councill & secry of the province) wherein he writes me that he discovered silver Mines 7 or 8 yeares about 600 miles West souterly from Charles town Proposing That he will at his own charg work vpon One of them till he brings it to perfection : provided, he may be fully assured that the Lords proprietors shall not take from him their three parts out of all the silver Oare he shall

⁴⁷³ This letter seems to be lost, but *supra*, Vol. V. p. 200. that to Lord Bridgewater is printed

shall gett at his own costs & labour : otherwise he will lye still.⁴⁷⁴

Mr Amey & Mr Thornbury⁴⁷⁵ (formerly petty Agents or such like to the Lords proprietors) are now become such themselves & Mr Blake not long ago very low, is now the Greatest Indian Trader in the province vpon his purchasing a proprietary ship of Mr Archdale . & is the Gom^t for the common Good of themselves, This Trivmvirate carry on carry on [*sic*] the Gom^t & the Indian Trade together . for one must support the other . else both are ruind'. but the Inhabitants & the Country are preserved from Ruine thereby if it continues long in such hands, They share the profit in consideration the Burthen of the Gom^t lyes vpon them. Tis true the E : of Bathe has the Honour to be the Lord Palatine . the Lord Craven & y^e other noble Lords are not much further concerned', then to keep their Number of 5 full : as to their Rents, etc : care is taken they shall haue but a very small dividend. the Grandure of their Gom^t abroad must be now supported, & their salaryes paid to their Great Officers . viz : Mr Bohan Cheife Justice in the Courts of Kings Bench Common pleas Exchecquer & Chancery (if he will hold so many courts : Mr Ely son in law to M^r Amey receiver of their Revennue . & Edw^d Bettruger lately a M^r of a vessell : and a Lords Deputy . a survey^r gen^{ll} of all their Lands etc :

The Lords are pleased to appeare when Mr Amey or Thornbury say tis necessary to countenance & vphold their Gom^t &

⁴⁷⁴ For this provision, see *supra*, William Thornburgh was Secretary to the Proprietors. For Joseph Blake, see Vol. II. note 335.

⁴⁷⁵ Thomas Amy was a Proprietor; *supra*, Vol. V. p. 193, etc.

& defend their Rights . but the meaning is . to conniue at the Arbitrary & vnjust practices in their Gom^t which their Lordf^{pps} are never truely informd of by them.

But I think no notice is taken at home of those proprieties, they are exempts, if his Ma^{tie} will please to allow the Parlm^t to annex them to the Crown he will be the Richest prince in Europe . by the Industry of his subjects. till that be done . his Ma^{ties} Authority & his laws signify nothing in those Priveleged places

I humbly inclose some papers shewing the vnjust & abominable proceedings of the present Gon^t in Carolina.⁴⁷⁶ Tis matter of fact & as easily proved as written . which I am able to do . if I am directed to take depositions before the Judge. tis absolutely necessary to convince the world the great mischeifes which will arise to Eng^d by permitting these little Commonwealth Gom^{ts} to continue distinct from the Crown :

All which is humbly submitted

by y^{rs}

ED RANDOLPH

[*Endorsed*]

Bermuda 3 Ap^l 99

To the Right Hon^{ble}

M^r Blathwayt :

From M^r Randolph

R^d 18 May 99.

CLXV.

⁴⁷⁶ For Archdale's evil deeds, see *supra*, Vol. V. p. 155.

CLXV.

RANDOLPH TO VERNON ON SPANISH AGGRESSION.

*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*Bermuda April . 10th 1699 .May it Please Your Hon^r:

I left Carrolina the 27th of March past and landed here the 4th Inf^t; whilst I was there, I desired Cap^t Risbee,⁴⁷⁷ who lives in Charles Towne, to give me an Account of the Scituation of S^t Augustⁿ being well acquainted and has been often sent thither by the Government of Carrolina upon Publicque Buffiness, sometimes to demand Runn away Slaves which are entertained in Pay by the Governour at the Castle: some English men are still there Kept, He gave me a Rough draught and a short Description of the Place; I sent a Coppy of it to the R^t Hon^{ble} the Lords Commiff^{rs} for Trade: I have here employed a Person better skilled to make one, w^{ch} I humbly present your Hon^r ⁴⁷⁸

The Inhabitants of Carrolina, hearing the French have possessed themselves of S^t Domingo In time of Peace and that they have sent Shippes into the Bay of Mexico to make a Settlement at Mischasipi, are apprehensive, that under that pretence, they will take S^t Augustⁿ which they may do with

a

⁴⁷⁷ There were several persons of this name, but this seems to be James Risby, a Jamaican, who, after being employed by Sir Thomas Lynch in the King's service (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1683, no. 1261), appears as a private (*Calendar*

of State Papers, America and West Indies, 1696, p. 263), and is mentioned as an accomplice of Read Elding by Randolph, *post*, CLXXXIV.

⁴⁷⁸ No. CLXVII., referred to presently as No. 2.

a 100 Men, the Garrifon being in no Condition to defend it: And if so, they will so bee Masters of Carrolina (S^t Augustⁿ being not above Seventy-five Leagues from Charles Towne, For the Spaniards have long agoe and do still claime all the Southerne part of that Province to Ashly River, & in Prosecution of their Claime, the Governour of S^t Augustⁿ in August 1686 : sent a 100 Spaniards, Indians & Negroes to drive the English off their Lands : They Plundred their Houses and Destroyed all their Cattle and Stock they could finde upon their Plantations as farr as Edisto Island (within Forty Miles of Charles Towne) where they Killed the Governours Brother in Law and another Man (as by the enclosed doth appeare N^o 1 : ⁴⁷⁹) I formed it into Articles & because they contained matter of State (Tho' generally knowne in Carrolina to be true) I desired the Government to have them Atested under the Seale of the Province, They told me they had formerly represented it Home, but it was to no Purpose, and they did nothing in it, They were all engaged in other Busyness.

M^r Blake (nigh Three Yeares Governour) is the greatest Indian Trader in the Province, but that does not consist wth the well being of the Inhabitants. They are very sensible of the Mischeife they receive thereby, They have complained but no Redress. The Rest of the Government (all of them Lords Propriators Deputys) are Indian Traders or Planters, not disposed nor capable to Promote the common Good of the Province : as to the Lords propriators who are principally concerned, their Lordshps have not sent them
one

⁴⁷⁹ The paper is given *supra*, as No. CLXII., under its proper date.

one pound of Powder or Lead, to defend themselves all the time of the late Warr with France. Their Government was Extreame negligent (being in Charles Towne) to Suffer an Ensign and Six Spanish Soldiers to Walke about Towne four or five Dayes and Discourse wth whome they pleased wthout a Guard, which Cap^t Mann Master of the Shipp Edward and Francis of London, now gone Home, did alsoe see. They were sent by the Governour of S^t Augustⁿ to Convoy a Master of a Sloope belong^g to Virginia and five of his Company cast away upon the Coast of Florida in 28 : 20 to Charles Towne, where they Arrived the 21st of March past, Whereas when the English are sent upon Busines thither, a Guard is Order'd to Attend them whilst they Stay. Some of the Cheife Inhabitants seeing so little care taken of the Country told me at parting, that they would Desert the Province and remove with their ffamilyes to the West Indies from whence a great many of them came, Saying that altho' some amongst them fflattered themselves upon the Peace wth France, Yet upon the Death of the King of Spaine (or sooner when they pleased) the French would gett Augustⁿ by Surprize or Treachery: The enclosed N^o 2 . Shews their weake Condition at present. S^t Augustⁿ is a place of great Import to our English Navigation, from New England the other Northerne Plantations on the continent of America, Tradeing too and from his Maj^{ty} Islands in the West Indies; it lyes commodiously to releive distressed Veffells comeing out of the Bay of Mexicoe bound to the N^o ward, as alsoe such as goe from England to Virginia &c^a being driven by their Port by North West Winds and forced to Beare up for Berbadoes or Providence, if they cannot gett into Carrolina; which is

a Barrd Harbour and many Veffells loft in the Attempt: But, whatever Neceffityes Veffells are put to (as matters are now at S^t Auguftⁿ) I heare none have gott thither: Not long agoe a New Yorke Man went to the Harbour his Veffell was made a prize upon Suspition he came to Trade: besides, they are very Jealous y^t every one that comes there, has a Designe to Surprize them. Cap^t Rifbee told me that if he had his Maj^{ty}s Co^miffion he would take it with a Hundred Men and Keep it if he were releived wth Men, Amunition and Provition from Charles Towne; But, if (in time of Warr with France) S^t Auguftⁿ bee in their hands, that Place will prove fatall to Us; for the Harbour is large and will containe a great many Shipps of Force, and lying at the Entrance of the Bay of Mexicoe, They will take all Veffels goeing out or in and Cutt of the Trade between his Majesties' Plantations on the continent and those in the West Indies, besides that Country has great Plenty of Provitions.

Now from what I have said I crave Leave Humbly to Propose, That in as much as S^t Auguftⁿ lyes above a League within the Southerne Bounds of Carrolina Patent, and the Spaniards have made no reparation for the Damage lately done his Maj^{ty}s Subjects in Carrolina (altho' often Demanded) nor are in a Condition to Defend themselves against the French. That his Majestie will please to send to Carrolina upon the Outward bound Virginia Shipps 3 or 400 Soldiers under the Conduct of a Prudent Commander wth Power to Claime and enter upon S^t Auguftⁿ, and Keep the Possession for Reprisalls, untill the Spaniards make full Sattisfaction for the Damages &c^a, Or, if that Proposall bee rejected and if it bee concluded betweene the Two Crowns
at

at Home, Those Soldiers would bee alwayes ready to Affist the Spaniards, or (which is most nescessary) to defend Carolina from any Invasion, That being the only Fronteire against Spaniards and French. I Know the Lords Propriators will oppose sending Soldiers thither, being of S^r Peter Collitons' Opinion (formerly one of them) That Nature had secured their Province (by a Bar'd Harbour against Invasion, But neither He nor any of their Lordsh^{ps}, then Knew anything of the Inland Passage, by w^{ch} at once a 1000 Men may goe in Periaugers wth Bagg and Baggage from Charles Towne to S^r Augustⁿ and not bee Stopt by the way nor discovered till they are land^d and intrenched if needfull.

All which is humbly submitted
by.

ED. RANDOLP :.

[*Addressed*] To the Hon^{ble}
M^r Secry Vernon ⁴⁸⁰
humbly present:.

CLXVI.

RANDOLPH TO VERNON ASKING FOR A DESPATCH BOAT.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Bermuda :. Aprill : 10th 99 —

S^r

The losse of a small vessell appointed by their Lordsh^{ps} of
y^e Admiralty to transport me from One Plantation & Island
to

⁴⁸⁰ James Vernon had been appointed Secretary of State at the end of 1697.

to another, expofes me to many difficultyes hazards & vnnecessary delayes, ftaying fome tymes 3 or 4 months for a paffage . which I haue humbly represented not long fince to y^e R^t Hon^{bls} the Lords Comm^{rs} for trade, and That there is now as great a neceffity for another veffell, as there was for that. I am going in a very fmall one to Providence Ifland & thence to Virginia if I can gett a paffage. If my attendance on y^r Hon^t at Whitehall bee for his Ma^{tis} fervice be pleased to fignify your commands to my M^{rs} at the cuftome houfe they will fend their orders to me in Virginia or Maryland accordingly —

I haue wrote nothing in mine of this date But matter of fact . propofing there in onely the increafe & fecurity of his Ma^{tis} vaft dominions in America : humbly intreating y^e continuance of y^r Hon^{rs} favour I am in all duty

y^r Hon^{rs}

moft obliged humble feru^t

ED. RANDOLPH

To the R : Hon^{le}

Mr Secry Vernon :—

CLXVII.

ACCOUNT OF THE WEAK CONDITION OF SAINT AUGUSTINE.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

A Brief Account of S^t Auguftine by ffrancis Andrews
Mate of the Sloop Mary of Virginia att Charles Town
in Carolina, March 23 : 1699

The Barr or River of S^t Auguftine lyeth in the Lat : 30 : 30 :
North

North The Town is very inconsiderable for Trade because the Inhabitants are all Souldiers to the Number of 150 Men & Boys Who are accoutred after an Indifferent Manner Their Musketts being Match Locks and altogether Ignorant of Martiall Discipline, They fare very ordinarily, The Cheif of their food being Indian Corne beaten and Boyled which they call Gatche but att some times they haue supply from the Appalatcha (70 odd Leagues distant to y^e Westward of S^t Augustine) which affords great plenty of Indian Corn Tobacco Swines flesh, Beeff & Skins There is a Garrison consisting of 30 Men or thereabouts As also severall Franciscan Fryers who officiate their Ecclesiasticall Function in the Severall Indian Towns.

There is also to the Westward a River called Panfacola which is Lately inhabited or settled by the Spaniards But to no Effect, for the Indians thereof are fled to another River to the Northwest of that, which is Reported to be settled by the English.

CLXVIII.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF BERMUDA.

Board of Trade, A and B Bermuda, Vol. III.

Bermuda May y^e 1st 1699

May it Please y^r Lordships

Pursuant to y^r Lordsh^s directions to me in M^r Secre^y Popple's lett^r of y^e 1st of Apr^l 1697 (to give y^r Lordsh^{ps} an
Account

Account of whatsoever I shall judge proper for y^r Lordf^{ps} knowledge in order to his Maj^{ties} Service in any of y^e Colonys where I shall reside, or thro' which I shall pass) I humbly represented in mine of y^e 16 of March⁴⁸¹ past Via Bristoll, a short acc^t of ye province of Carolina, to which I humbly refer y^r Lordf^{ps}. I left Carolina y^e 27 following and arriv'd here y^e 4th of Apr^l. I waited on Gov^r Day soon after my Landing: he made a severe complaint ag^t Sam^l Trott y^e p^rsent Collector, of his ill manage in his Office & added that he was a man of a turbulent Spirritt, and that most of y^e inhabitants were mutinous against their Gov^{rs}. he pressed me that I would turn M^r Trott out of place forthwith I thought I was in Justice bound to inform my selfe what truth there was in his allegations against Trott and the cause why the Gov^{rs} successivly imprisond him,⁴⁸² I find that all of them being traders, they could not carry on their design for trade unless they were secure in a Navall Officer & Collector: I have as yet found no cause to suspend M^r Trott, the Gov^{rs} are verry arbitrary they do it themselves or by misrepresentations of him to y^e Custome house endeavour to gett him remov'd, that their owne confidents may succeed him in y^e Office of Collector.

These Islands of Bermuda were from their first discovery under y^e direction of a Company as Carolina, They sent them a Gov^r from England: or sometimes appointed one upon y^e Place: The Inhabitants finding their Gov^{rs} to exercise

⁴⁸¹ *Supra*, Vol. V. p. 193.

⁴⁸² The succession is Cony (the last of the Proprietary Governors), Robinson, Richier, Goddard, Day. For the

accusations against Richier, see *Preface to Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1689-1692, p. xxv, and *Preface to 1693-1696*, p. xxviii.

exercife great feverity's upon them, takeing from them their Eftates without Judges or Jury represented their miserable oppreffion to his Maj^{tie} King Charles y^e 2^d and humbly prayed to be taken under the imediate Governm^t & protection of y^e Crown: and upon full prooffe their Charter was Vacated his Maj^{tie} was pleafd to appoint S^r Rob^t Robinfon⁴⁸³ their Gov^r & gave him an Hon^{ble} Maintenance but not content tryed all ways by fea or otherwife to gett an Eftate: In the first place he made his own Officers. Rich^d Afhworth his Cook maid's Brother was his Navall Officer, S^r Rob^t traded in his name and tho M^r Trott was y^e Collector by deputation from y^e Custome Houfe yet S^r Rob^t turnd him out and imprifond him for his pleasure, as by y^e Coppy of his Warr^t N^o 1 doth appear, and made Thomas Burton a stranger in the Countrey and of no Eftate to be Collector, and kept M^r Trott a clofe prifner 6 weeks faying the Com^{rs} of y^e Customs have no power to appoint an Officer where y^e King has fent his Gov^r. M^r Richier fucceeded him, he built a Sloop with y^e Kings Timber and fould halfe to Devoreux a Scotchman and for ye grace of y^e matter gave him the title of Collonell, with a Comiffion to take and apprehend all Sea rovers and Pirates &c. I found by y^e Collectors books in Maryland y^t Devreux took 80 Hoggf^{ds} of Tobacco aboard and carry'd it to Glascow from whence he imported a great Cargo of Scotch manufacture

⁴⁸³ The accusations against Robinfon rest chiefly on the testimony (besides that of Randolph) of one Hordefnell, who was appointed Chief Justice, and who himself confesses that he had noth-

ing to do in that office (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1688, no. 1888), except, he might have added, to find fault.

facture, M^r Trott Seized and profecuted Veffell & Loading, haveing the plainest evidence ag^t her, but Richier prevailed with the Judges being of his owne Appointm^t to clear them : and to give cofts and Damages againft M^r Trott he is imprifond above halfe a Year and dureing that time appointed one Groves a Broken Merch^t. to be y^e Collector, haveing made him his Navall Officer at his firft arrivall : and abundance more like it and orderd Cap^t Hall Co^mander of y^e Shipp Rebecca then here in his Maj^{ties} Service not to affift the Collector as by Coppy N^o 2 this Occafiond his removall and Coll^t Goddard Succeeded him in his Gov^{mt} and way of trade which he could not well drive on fo long as M^r Trott was y^e Collector, he would not connive at their illegal trade and haveing made his Nephew Brooks Navall Officer he displaced M^r Trott by his nonfenficall & arbitrary warr^t and placed him in his Office N^o 3 and that he might make Sure worke Brooks was made Secretary alfo : hee traded to Curraço for him and contrary to his Maj^{ties} Instructions about appointing and chufing the Members of his Councell Judges &c : (to bee chofen out of y^e men of good Eftates and ability's and not neceffitous people or not much in debt :) hee did make one Gilbert Nelfon⁴⁸⁴ who confeffed here that he owed 13000^l in London and a man of no faith) to be of his Councell and his cheif Judge : this made the inhabitants verry uneafy to find their Lives and Liberty's lye at y^e Mercy of a Bankrupt and therefore had drawne up a body of

⁴⁸⁴ Yet Gilbert Nelfon is the perfon whom Randolph himfelf recommended as Judge for the Bermudas, *ſupra*, Vol. V. p. 138. From Vol. V. p. 289, he feems to have been continued in his office of Judge after Day's removal.

of Articles against him and gave him a Coppy that he might be prepared to answer them and intended to prosecute him upon them before his Maj^{tie} in Councell, but hearing he was out of the Govern^t they applyed to Gov^r Day for redress, he at first smoothed the matter till he had whedled them out of three Hundred pounds he promis'd those whom he had vexatiously and most unjustly oppressed that he would see they should have y^e benefit of y^e Law against him and encourag'd M^r Trött to bring his Action against him for 500^l for false imprisonment of him and against Nellson for refusing to grant him a Writt of Habeas Corpus : he cast Nelson and had judgment against him for 500^l : he had arrested C : Goddard by y^e Gov^{rs} allowance but granted an injunction out of Chancery to stopp all proceedings : he would suffer no man to arrest him for their just debts : but Guarded him till he was gott a board. Coll. Goddard ⁴⁸⁵ had made Stephen Crow (formerly his groome) his Sheriffe he had a great deal of y^e Kings and of y^e Countreys money and their Publick papers in his hands : he gave no security for his Office he was not to be arrested : but got aboard and is gone to England so that their Creditors are left without hopes of recovering their Debts and because they endeavourd to gett their owne he with the former Governors have by their Interest at Court obtaind a Credit agst y^e oppressed inhabitants : who are all looked upon to be Rogues & Villanes : But their present Gov^r Day not regarding y^e Hon^r of

⁴⁸⁵ Goddard's doings are summarised in the *Preface to Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1693-1696, and 1696-1697, p. xxviii, &c. For his connection with Crow, see *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1693, no. 680.

of y^e Crowne nor y^e benefit of y^e Iflands after he had made fure of his 300^l he turnd out Cap^t Walker Coll^l Anthony White and Cap^t Harford from being of his Councell and continued Nelson & Outerbridge and chofe in John Brooks a broken Scrivener in London who came over a covenant Servant about two years ago : thefe are true to his intereft right or rong. Nelson declard in Councell that y^e Govern^r could make a decree in Chancēy without y^e affent of any of his Councell who are M^{rs} in Chancery alfo: Tis pleafant to fee him keep one Daniell Smith (who being at Sea in a Veffell ready to founder was Saved by Avery and was upon tryall at Providence acquitted by y^e Court) ftrictly a clofe Prifner in Goale here and make Outerbridge one of his Councell who was part owner of y^e Sloop Amity Thomas Tue M^r and was at charge to fett her out to the Redd Sea: he received about 540^l left by Tue in Bofton for his fhare: Smith has petitiond to be fent to England or tryed here, but he has land worth 4 or 500^l & Nellfon and his Sheriffe muft firft bleed him well: I have little converfation with him, but find him a man Loden with Pride and Vanity: more fit for a Bafhaw then a Gov^r.

There was in the Magazine when hee arriv'd about 40 Barrells of Powder he has fquanderd away a great part of it by his unnecesfary falutes, he comāded his Cap^{ts} of y^e Caftles to Salute him with 7 Gunns when ever he croffed y^e Harbor, upon his going aboard a fmall boat he fired 3 Gunns the Platforme where he took water anfwerd him with as many, he makes his vifits by water he fires 3 Gunns to advife them of his comeing aShore and 3 more at his parting. M^r Richier and Coll^l Goddard if they please can Vouch the truth

truith of it, *Some* of the Gentlemen discourst him with modesty about it of which Coll^l White was one he told him it was of verry evill consequence to have his Maj^{ties} Powder Spent so extravagantly, when they know not how soone the King of Spain might Dye and then the French would take the Island with 2 or 300 men when they had not Powder to defend themselves. This advise which Coll^l White as one of the Councell ought to give y^e Gov^r was not well taken ; for the Gov^r sought all occasions to make him an Example for his Sauciness and a terror to others. The last Sessions of the Assembly, Severall Depositions were taken that proved Nellson guilty of Bribery as a Judge the Gov^r hearing of it adjornd them till a certain day : at their next meeting haveing more evidence to proove the fact, they reassum'd the cause and were intended to have him prosecuted y^e next court of Assizes but then the Gov^r Prorogued them, tho they had severall greivances to be redressed, and demanded some and would force y^e Assembly papers out of their hands : Some time after, it was contriv'd by Nellson & one Crane (not worth a groat) the Sheriffe, that Coll^l White must be charg'd with doing or speaking ill words against y^e Gov^{nt} (the Gov^r grants his Warrant to Crane to fetch him before him and to break open his doores to serch for him if he could not readily find him, Crane with 5 or 6 men broak open the Doores ; & y^e next Sunday the Gov^r Issued out the inclofd proclamation : Coll. White seeing him in Earnest tho for no cause went to the Gov^{rs} house who comitted him to Goal by his owne Warrant : he was forc'd to serve Nelson with a writt of Habeas Corpus and altho he offerd 4 or 5 men of y^e best estates on y^e place yet Nelson by the Gov^{rs} directions

directions would accept of no Bail unless M^r Dickinson Col: Whites Son in Law would be one of the security's, on purpose to prevent his going to England to represent these arbitrary proceedings.

Coll^d White haveing given security the Sheriff demanded 20 peices of 8 for his Fee 2 Peices are his due by Law, he would not lett him be at Liberty till he had paid his extravagant demands and Kept him above 48 hours without meat or drink and threatned to keep him in Prison till he was paid: but would not let him have a Coppy of y^e Gov^rs Warrant ordering him to break open his doores, neither would Nellson his Cheif Judge take his deposition that Crane the Sheriffe had refused to give him a Coppy:

These Gov^rs are the Agreffors upon his Maj^{ties} Subjects they that make them groan under the heavy burthen of their oppressions, Yett when they complain they are represented to be the opposers of his Maj^{ties} Govern^t Setled here. S^t Rob^t Robinson caused the Veffells fitted out to y^e Wreck⁴⁸⁶ to stay 3 weeks or a month at great Charge in the Harbors, till they had given him security to lett him have a Large share at their returne: and then sent men on board, who would not lett them have their parts after they had paid his Maj^{ties} tenths and what they were oblig'd to lett him have.

M^r Richier erected a Court Martiall in time of peace here he charged some of the cheif inhabitants with Treason and would have hanged them haveing instruments proper for that worke.

Coll:

⁴⁸⁶ This was no doubt the famous Hispaniola wreck, out of which Phips and others made fortunes.

Coll: Goddard made his Confidants tho not worth a farthing his prime ministers & officers of trust, they squee'd the poore inhabitants but gave no security for their Places and run away with their money. As Ashworth S^r Rob^t Robinsons Merch^t or factor at first his navall officer run to Ireland. And Stephen Crowe Coll: Goddards Groome & Sheriff & his Nephew Brookes were cheif in his councells.

I have discour'd some of y^e men of Estates in these Islands (and they say) that the present want of Amunition may prove the loss of this Countrey. Now in case through the negligence or improvidence of their Gov^{rs} or their non observance of his Maj^{ties} instructions for Gov^t (which not one of them have in any sort conform'd to) the French should surprize this place of so great import to the Crown. Lying in 32½ N. Lat. it will ruine utterly the whole trade of England to and from the Sugar Plantations. Shipp's homeward bound must get into the Lat: of 29 before they meet with a westerly wind the French with a small Fleet of nimble Vessells will take them all and putting a Strong Garison into S^t Augustine not tenable by the Spaniards they will have a good Harbor to receive Vessells of 30 or 40 Guns and so shutt the English out of all their West India Trade.

I have entertained y^r Lordships with my narrative upon reputation only for y^e Gov^r will not lett any depositions be taken tho it immediately concerns his Maj^{ties} Service till he has consulted upon it, which is the cheif reason why some of the Inhabitants do not now attend y^r Lord^{ps} with their Complaints: and must be forced to submit and be quiet, till his Maj^{tie} be pleas'd to comānd the Gov^{rs} to chuse such men for his Councill and Justices of y^e Peace, according to his Maj^{ties}

Instructions

Instructions. I am obligd to stay here till I can gett a Passage to Providence: the Loss of the Frigott, and want of a Vessell exposes me to great hardships I hope I shall find one at Verginia directed for that purpose.

All which is humbly submitted

I am indisposed not finding by
agreeable Diett or drinke. ED. RANDOLPH
I have not been accustomed to Rum.

P. S.] please to excuse the
writing the matter
is too true [Signature & P. S. in Randolph's hand]

[Endorsed] To the R: Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs}
for Trade.
Copy

CLXIX.

RANDOLPH TO POPPLE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

Bermuda. May y^e 2 : 1699

I haue according to my duty represented to their Lord^{ships} the present state of the Gom^t of these Islands I find here haue been successiue 4 Gon^{rs} who haue been very Carefull to oppresse the Inhabitants by arbitrary Gom^t as if it were One of the Articles in their Instructions for Gom^t & indeed the principle, for in all my enquiry I find no one Good thing for the Service of the Crown or the benefitt of the Inhabitants by any one of them, but by Coll Goddard in passing the Act
for

for habeas Corpus, but he had 300^l for it & was the first that broake it Imprisoning the Collectors of y^e Customs. I have made a discourse ⁴⁸⁷ too long for a letter & give it in vpon my Own Credit: the Gon^r is politick & will not Suffer any of his Justices of the peace to administer an Oath in prooffe of a matter (tho' for his Ma^ts Service) till he has Considered it & giuen his Consent. he has Stoppd those Gen^r from coming ouer to make their Complaint: So that tis Mare clausum: I humbly [beg] the favour of their Lord^s^{pps} on their behalfe that they will giue no Credit to what Col^t Goddard Sayes or Gon^r Day writes vpon this Subject till they haue heard Some of the Cheife vpon the place make appeare what I haue now wrote: I haue no clerk: & am much indispofed. Excuse therefore my ill writing if god giue me health I intend to providence: & if I misse a passage there for virginia must be forced to come home my humble Duty to all their Lord^s^{pps} I am S^r

your most humble Serv^t

ED RANDOLPH:

M^r Sec^{ry} popple:

[*Endorſea*]

Bermuda

Łre from M^r Randolph
to y^e Sec^{ry} dated y^e 2^d May
1699.

Rec^d 10th June }
Read 4th July } 1699

Entred Fol. 159

B. 18.

CLXX.

⁴⁸⁷ This is probably the long memorial delivered until Randolph's arrival in printed as Letter CLXXXVIII, and not England more than a year later.

CLXX.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE CONDUCT OF DAY.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Hon^d S^r:

Bermuda. May y^e 2: 1699:.

I wrote you from hence by Cap^t Brisco . Command^r of the Sun[*ſic*] Prize : I wrote alſo to Mr Sec^{ry} Vernon by him, but know not wheither this preſent Gon^r M^r Day has not ſo influenced him as as to throw them over Board for in the little tyme I have been here I find he ſticks at nothing: he has turnd' out two of the members of y^e Councill appointed by his Ma^{ties} Commiſſion: Cap^t Charles Walker & Coll Anthony White: men of good eſtates and reputation: he has likewiſe turnd' out of the Councill Cap^t Thomas Hartford, the man you were pleaſed to favour with carrying him to y^e late K: James: about y^e Copper Guns he tooke vp at the Wreck: at his firſt arrivall vpon y^r Hon^{rs} recommendation. he made M^r Richard Stafford cheife Judge of the Iſlands: but finding him an honeſt man & not fitt for his Turn: he laid him aſide & has taken in an arrant knave Gilbert Nelson who broke in London for 13000^{ll} & being accused by the aſſembly for Bribery. So much concernd was M^r Day for his favourite that he once adjourned & a ſecond tyme prorogued them: & will not lett them fitt to do ye publick buſines of the Country: I know if you aſke Coll Goddards opinion of thoſe he has turnd out, he will ſay they are all Rogues & Villanes (as he told me) & that Nelson is a very honeſt Gen^l the foure Gon^{rs} S^r Rob^t Robinſon. & his ſucceſſors: like Witches: ſay & practice their Articles of Inſtruction backwards not One of them haue obſerved one of the moſt neceſſary Inſtructions: It would do well, if they
were

were ordred to giue their anfwere in writing vnder their hand to every article & how they acted vpon them:

I humbly inclose an account of money received by S^r Rob^t Robinfon for his Ma^{ties} Tenth^s from y^e Wreck: he paid it (as has been said :) to M^r Horfenell: ⁴⁸⁸ Its neceffary he should produce his receite for it to see how the account & that agrees; I beleiue the money is wafted not a little between them two:

I had almoſt forgott to mention M^r William Outerbridge a principle man in Coll Goddards & Mr Dayes Councill, the beſt of him is he was bred a ſhipp Carpenter: & now one of the Cheife at the Helme; M^r Ruſhe can giue his True character: he was part Owner of the Sloop Amity Thomas Tue M^r his name is in my papers before y^r Lordſ^{pp} he ſett her Out to the Red Sea: & not long ſince he received aboue 500^l for his dividend: Its neceffary an Order were directed to Cap^t Thomas Hartford M^r Richard Stafford & M^r Sam. Trott y^e Elder: to demand the money of him for his Ma^{ties} or that his Ma^{tie} pleaſe to haue him appeare at a Certaine day before him in Councill: I queſtion not but Coll Goddard & this Gon^r haue a great opiniō of him, he has paid them well for it:

I haue wrote very largely from hence to y^r Board: ſeverall of the cheife men would haue confirmd what I haue ſaid by their Depoſitions but the Gon^r has ſtopd their Mouths: & will not lett any of them come ouer nor ſend Depoſitions hauing forbad his Juſtices of the peace to adminiſter an Oath to any till he is acquainted with the matter.

at his firſt coming he cenſured Coll: Goddards irreguler proceedings

⁴⁸⁸ For Henry Hordeſnell ſee notes to CLXVIII, *ſupra*.

proceedings & gaue leaue to severall to arest him for their just dues: & wheedled himfelfe into the Good opinion of the poeple . till they made him a present of 300^{li} he presently Turnd y^e Tables vpon them . & now Employes onely beggarly fellowes. others will not so much as Converse with him. the world may Judge of his principles . when they heare, he sacrilegiously profanes the communion plate & makes vse of it at his debaucheryes. I haue seen the Chalice: with the Cover and patena — the chalice for water: Orange Juice & Suger: the Cover Keepest out the flies: the patena: is necessary to serue Glasses of wine I admire not at it: when I see his other actings.

I humbly inclose a Copy of his proclamation ag^t Coll White . lately of his Councill by his Ma^{ties} Commands & also the Warr^t vnder his Own hand & seale for Imprisoning him: the inclosed account of money receiued vpon the wreck Plate by S^r Rob^t is true: I cannot find how much he paid to M^r Horfnell for his Ma^{ties} Tenths:—but tis thought not the full. M^r Trott from whom I had the account was one of the Comm^{rs} & weighed it:

my humble service to M^r Povey to Madam Blathwaite to y^r young Gen^{ts} & little Misse. this country affords nothing worth sending them. the aire is holsome but neither ordinary dyet no beere nor wine: Rum & Punch are the Common Liquors: I am hastning to Providence & from thence if god pleases to Virginia: but if I can gett no passage there I beleiue I must be forced to gett to Eng^d: — with my humble duty presented I am fr

Your humble ser^t

ED RANDOLPH:.

[*Endorsed*]

[*Endorfed*]

Bermuda 2 May 1699

From M Randolph

R^d 9 June 1699with M^r Trotts acco^o of MoneyRec^d by S Rob Robins for the

King tenths of the Wreck

CLXXI.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE, EXPECTING ARREST.

*Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.*Bermuda: May y^e 16th 1699May it please y^r Lordf^{pps}

I haue in my letters from hence, very largely represented to y^r Lordf^{pps} the affaires & present managem^t in the Gom^t of these Islands being directed so to do, by M^r Sec^{ry} Popples letter of y^e 1 of Aprill 1697.

Yesterday I attended Gon^t Day with a New Collector I deputed to supply a vacancy by the death of the former. at my first addresse he told me, he had made a Collector y^e Day before . That the Comm^{rs} had not power to appoint a Collector of y^e Customs here, his Ma^{tie} hauing committed that Trust to him by Commi^{ss} vnder y^e Great Seal.

Hee has thro' the negligence of One I made vse of to Copy my letters gott into his hands some blotted Rough Drafts of my letters to y^r Lordf^{pps} he treated me with worse then Billingsgate Language for giuing an account to y^r Lordf^{pps} wherein I wrote nothing butt matter of fact & what can be proved by y^e whole body of the Inhabitants; when the Tryall is, but he fitts in Court & has So over
awed

awed y^e Poep^{le} that they dare not speak truth. I received a paper last night, of which y^e inclosed is a Copy: I find thereby he intends to prosecute me as a Criminall for writing truth to y^r Lord^s^{pps} he has threatned to ruine me by Imprisonment & all other rigorous wayes, and (as I formerly wrote) turnd the cheife men out of his Councill & furnished himselfe with others for his turn; & has made his Navall Officer to be his Collector. Tis a long voyage from hence to London & not aboue 2 or 3 vessells go theither in a yeare, I fore See nothing but rotting in a Goale, which is an vnhappy reward for my many yeares past Services for the Crown. It was my misfortune to be Imprisoned with S^r Edm^d. Andros the Gon^l & many of y^e Councill nigh 12 months in Boston: & had continued there longer if his Ma^{tie} had not been graciously pleased to send his Expresse Orders to those who imprisoned vs to transport vs to Eng^d & to send ouer Agents to shew Cause for their So doing, we were accordingly sent, but they hauing no thing to charg vs with, we were all dischargd by his Ma^{ties} gracious order in Councill.

I haue none to apply to for Redresse, but to y^r Lord^s^{pps} I am to be a great Sufferer for observing y^r Lord^s^{pps} Com^{mands}. I therefore humbly pray y^r Lord^s^{pps} to moue his Ma^{tie} on my behalfe, that a vessell may be forth with dispatchd heither with Orders to y^e Gon^l to send me home, and that Gilbert Nelson William Outerbridge John Brookes & Roger Crane, my cheife prosecutors may be ordred to attend at Whitehall & to proue to my face the Cause for which I am so inhumanely putt in prison. I am assured they are resolut to do it to day. The Gon^l told me he had sent ouer a great many
depositions

depositions ag^t me to y^r Lord^s^{pps} I question not, but Nelson Outerbridge Brookes & Crane are Some of y^e Deponents ag^t me, but are So well known here That no man of vnderstanding will Credit their Oathes. I beleive M^r Richeir is of that Opinion: Tis true they are of the Councill which may seem to Excuse them, but I haue known in Such Cafes That the Gon^r has been Expresly ordred to make Choise of others in their absence I am not to be destroyed by paper Evidence.

I haue onely humbly to add, That if your Lord^s^{pps} will not relent and effectually remedy such open injustice & oppression done to me who haue faithfully Serud the Crown aboue 24 yeares . No man thats fitt for busines will Ever after Serue his Ma^{tie} in his foraine & remote Plantations:

All which is humbly Submitted
to y^r Serious Consideration
by y^r Lord^s^{pps}

Suffring Seru^t

ED RANDOLPH.

[*Endorsed*]

Bermuda

Le^tre from M^r Randolph
to y^e Board dated in Bermuda y^e 16th of May 1699.

Rec^d 2 Aug^o }
Read 21th Ditto } 1699

B. 23

Entred Fol 200

Ex^d

[*Addressed*]

To the Right Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade
at Whitehall
humbly present

[*In Randolph's handwriting*]

[*Enclosure*]

[*Enclosure*]

Bermuda

Copy of the Summons to Ed : Randolph
to appeare before the Gon^r at y^e Seffions Houfe :
By order of his Excell^t. the Gon^r & Councill
To Edward Randolph Esq³

These are to giue you notice that you are required personally
to bee & appeare before his Excell^t. the Gon^r & Councill
at y^e Seffions house in S^t Georges to morrow morning by 8
of y^e Clock and thereof you may not faile; Dated on Munday
y^e 15th of May: 1699

By Order

Charles Minors Sec^{ry}:

CLXXII.

DAY TO THE BOARD OF TRADE, ENCLOSING RANDOLPH'S
LETTERS.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

Bermuda the 18th May 1699

My Lords

Since my last to your Lordships by Cap^a Benjamin Stow
I have discovered the pernicious and unjust Secrett practises
of M^r Randolph: the Surveyor Generall of his Majesties
Customs . in these American parts, To bring mee into the
Diffavor and ill Opinion of your Lordships by an Untrue
Representation of things to yo^r Lordships in his Letters to
England, Some rough Draughts whereof have come to my
hands and I herewith Send your Lordships Coppis, By
w^{ch} You will perceive the great Liberty hee takes, Which I
humbly Submitt to your Lordships confideration.

In his Letter directed to the hon^{ble} the Comiffioners of his Majesties Customs hee is pleased to Suggest That hee was Intended for Providence . But that the Sloop went without him for fear of being Stopt, Which assertion of his Is altogether untrue. For M^r Randolph himself was with mee when the Sloop was cleared and took his Tickett himself and also tooke his Leave of mee for Providence and the Owner of the Sloop and hee Went out of my house together As they told mee to go directly on board to Saile within half an hour.

As to What relates to M^r Trott late Collector I shall not Say much In regard hee is Dead, Only this, That in respect hee was deputed by the Comiffioners to that Office I restored him to the Execution of the same upon my Arrival here, In which Office hee continued to his death, And upon his death for the present Supply of the place I have put in M^r Thomas Brook who had late been Collector (hee haveing in the time of his Officiating kept very regular books and Accounts, The Coppy of whose Comiffion is herewith Sent : And as to the Sufferings of M^r Trott by the late Governors M^r Richier and Coll. Goddard I cannot but doe Coll. Goddard that Justice to lett Your Lordshipps know That hee was not Imprisoned by him att any time for any Such thing as by M^r Randolph is Intimated But his Imprisonment when Ever it happened hath been the Effect of his contempt of Authority or some other Misdemeanor. As to Publications in the Churches which hee the said M^r Randolph makes mention of, They are here as in other places made by order of the Government and had M^r Randolph Signified his desire to mee of any lawful Publication to bee made I should have readily given him my Order and assistance in the same But
hee

hee never applied himself to mee or any under mee, Hee also mentions Some Sugar to bee here landed and Imported, This Was done by Capt^a Briscoe Comander of the Frigott the Surprize for releife of his men Who came here in Extremity, as may appeare to yo^r Lordshipps by the rough draught of M^r Randolphs first letter, whereof a Coppy is herewith Sent Besides May itt please yo^r Lordshipps, Capt^a Briscoe to my knowledge made a Tender of the Customs of the Same to M^r Randolph, Who refused itt, In regard Itt was done for his Majesties Service. As to the pretended Depositions of M^r Sam^l Stone mentioned by M^r Randolph, The falsity thereof will fully appeare by M^r Stone's Attestation herewith also sent : And as [to] the Depositions, Said, to bee sent by Col. Goddard I cannot Say anything of Itt, Not know-

(By Cap^t Kemp-
thorn.) ing thereof: And as to the Character which M^r Randolph gives of M^r Nelson, Who has been here a Resident for Some Yeares I have had the account hereof of his being a very Sober honest Gentleman And besides hee was nominated a Councillor in his Majesties Instructions to mee And by the Experience I have had of him, Hee is a person of Parts, of great Loyalty & One that understands the Law in Some Measure And So Esteeming him the fittest for the Office of a Judge that I could find in these Islands, Where the Inhabitants have not the opportunity or advantage of Education to Qualify them in any measure for Such Employments.

As to M^r Randolph's Letter of the Second of this instant May I hope your Honors wilbee pleased to observe the Character given by M^r Randolph to my Predecessor Col^t Goddard and myself now in the actuall Administration of the Kings Government

Government And of the dangerous Effect Such a Character may tend to : However I am resolved to discharge faithfully the Trust his Sacred Majesty hath been graciously pleased to repose in mee In pursuance of his Comission and Instructions Without Ever giving any just Occasion to bee complained of or bee brought for any misdemeanor before the hon^{ble} house of Comons.

And as to what is alledged very unjustly about the Statute of Habeas Corpus I most humbly referr your Lordships to the proceed^s att large herewith Sent, Whereby itt will appeare That according to the Laws and Constitutions of these Islands, An Appeale Was craved by and granted to the Dfts by the Judge of Assize to the Governor & Council as a Court of Chancery And accordingly bills were filed against the said M^r Trott Who not duly answering the Same but praying a further time to file in his answer The Dfts moved That in the meane time an Injunction might bee granted to Stay Execution for costs att Comon Law: So likewise as to the said M^r Randolphs Suggesting That I would not Suffer the Justices to take any Depositions. I have inclosed Sent the Certificate by them freely Signed in that Case.

My Lords

I have also discovered That hee the said M^r Randolph hath given Out That myself or one Roger Crane hath taken Two Tun of Logwood of one M^r Cholwell who lately arrived here, for Fees and Port charges of his Veffell But So unjust an Aspersion^t itt is May itt please your Lord^{ships} That the said Master Came into these Islands in great Distresse and applied himself to mee for Leave to unlade and refitt his
veffell

veffell and to difpofe of Some of his Cargoe here to raife money for his Occafions, And accordingly (As I am Informed) hee fold unto the faid Roger Crane about the Quantity of Two Tun of Logwood, and hee really paid for the Same.

But as to my own part I only took care That hee Entred into bond with Security for landing his goods in England As the Law requires W^{ch} hee (being a Stranger) found great difficulty to procure But haveing given Such Bond hee had imediately his clearings and Difpatches from thefe Islands without any delay or Charges.

And as to the further charge hee hath laid againft mee about Wafting his Majesties Stores here, As I am Informed on Oath I befeech your Lordshipps to have a better Opinion of mee When your Lordshipps have confidered the Sheriffes Atteftation herewith Sent, Who alwayes is the Keeper of the Stores And Gives in Security of One Thoufand Pounds for the difcharge of his Office.

My Lords

I am forry I have this Occafion to trouble yo^r Lordshipps Which I am constrained to doe for my own Juftification againft the falfe and malicious practifes of this turbulent mischeivous and wicked Man Humbly praying yo^r Lordshipps Impartiall Confideration of the dangerous confequence Such proceeds muft Tend to, For the people here are thereby So much Amused That they are att a Stand to whom they ought to yeild their due Obedience hee pretending great power and Authority in the regulateing of Government and that his Majesties Governors muft be accomptable to him Ufeing the Several Governors in thefe parts where hee hath been
(Viz^t)

(Viz^t) The Lord Bellemont in New York, Col^t. Markham in Penfilvania and Col^t. Blake in Carolina in a very Strange manner by opprobious Language and not Spareing to call them Villaines and Rogues: Under Such misfortune long have these Islands groaned by Such Undertakers who want not the Advice aid and Encouragement of some disquiet and uneasy men in these Islands Namely Anthony White, M^r. Charles Walker M^r. John Dickenfon and Capt^a. Thomas Harford Who have had frequent accessses to and Consultations with this Calumniating and dangerous Man Dureing all these his doings and Contrivances: However for the doing all right and Justice to this Gentleman I have thought fitt to Impart his Letters and Papers to the Council here Who took his Examination before them And hee Could not deny the charge against him But cheifly Infisted That hee had power to call the Governor to Account, So Upon hearing and confidering the matter hee the said M^r. Randolph was committed According to the tenor of the Comitment whereof a Coppy is here with Sent, And hee now remaines in Custody untill hee bee delivered by due Course of Law, Not doubting but in other his Writeings not to mee discovered hee has used mee with greater Rancour Barbarity & Injustice.

My Lords

I have lately taken Several parcells of the Clippings of the currant Money of these Islands and have herewith Sent yo^r. Lordshipps one Ounce Weight Out of Fourteen, found with One person, humbly hoping itt will move yo^r. Lord^s^{pps} to take into confideration that a Speedy and Suitable Remedy may may [be] provided to Such Exhorbitant practises, I have found cause to comitt Several persons on this Occasion and
they

they are now in custody in his Majesties prison here, On haveing made diligent Search into these matters and into the Kings lands and Slaves So long concealed and detained, Several Discoveryes have been made and Informations Exhibited into the Court of Exchequer. And in prosecution hereof I have discovered a great Uneasiness in Severall persons Especially in the said persons before named M^r Dickenson as I am Informed haveing Some Small time Since Carried to England About a Bushell of Clippings, As I doubt not but Capt^a Benjamin Stow now in England can give your Lordships Some Account, And M^r Walker Is and hath been the person who acts for M^r Noden in England Who formerly purchased the Regicides Lands in these Islands, and on his Account hath disposed of Severall Shares of the same, Hee is very uneasy on any Enquiry made and makes all Obstructions thereto, hee is capable of: And hee spares not to Tell me hee will Spend Two Thousand Pounds But hee will remove mee from this Government.

My Lords

I most humbly Submitt my Self unto yo^r Lordships in all things And am

May itt please yo^r Lordships

Yo^r Lordships most obedient

humble Servant

SAM. DAY

My Lords

I had sent this by the way of Barbados But happening in here the Briganteene Experiment Capt^a Samuel Kempthorne Comand^r bound directly to the Port of London, I have Sent itt by him, Who hath lived and traded in these American parts

parts above these Twenty Yeares, and is a person of great Experience and Can give Your Lordshipps a full Account of the State of these Islands if yo^r Lordshipps please to Order him to attend you :

CLXXIII.

INTERCEPTED LETTER OF RANDOLPH TO [SAVAGE?].

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

S^r.⁴⁸⁹

Bermuda May 2^d 1699

I have spent a great deale of Time to Examine M^r Trotts papers I Never heard nor Seed of Such unjust practises done in a Civill Government by Such Squires of Alsatia as have been done him by Col^t Goddard and this present one, I have inclosed his Letters of Attorneys to his Brother John, I feare hee will not Live Long, but I will Endeavor to have kept in memory the Barbarity and withdures of those Governors: this and all the other ought to bee brought before the house of Comons to bee made Examples to Terrifye the rest, I have Wrote Very Large Letters to my Masters att the Custome House and to the Lords Comissioners for Trade, S^r please to judge att the Honesty of M^r Day.

Hee Arrested by this Governors Consent and allowance Col^t Goddard and one Nelson a Broken Merchant (for Thirteene Thousand Pounds in London) upon the Statute of Habeas Corpus upon Tryall of Nelson and another person the Jury found

⁴⁸⁹ This is plainly a garbled version like his: but one or two expressions are of an actual draft of Randolph's. The quite in his style. spelling and grammar are altogether un-

found for him and hee had Judgment against them for Five Hundred Pounds a peece the Governor Granted an Injunction out of Chancery to Stopp proceedings and would not Lett M^r Trott proceed against him, the Governor will not lett mee have Coppys of any papers or Suffer his Justices to take any depositions without hee is first Acquainted with the matter a Christian will Live better in Turkey then any of the Inhabitants in these Islands may Expect if the Governor pleases to Enjure him. my humble Service to your Lady

Indorfed.

John Trott of Bermuda Son of Samuel Trott Esq^r deceased being Sworne Sayeth That in the month of May Instant hee this Deponent Wrote the Letter within Written by the Order of Esq^r Randolph Surveyor Generall from the Originall Letter which hee gave unto him the Which Originall Was the own hand Writeing of him the Said M^r Randolph.

John Trott

Sworne the 15th of May 1699
before his Excellency the Governor

Sam : Day

Exam^d p Charles Minors

Secret^r

CLXXIV.

INTERCEPTED LETTER FROM RANDOLPH TO THE CUSTOMS.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

May Itt please your Honors

My last was of the 15th Instant by Captaine Briscoe humbly Representing that I intended for Providence upon a Sloop
then

then ready to Sayle and went that Evening to M^r Trotts house to bee nigh her, and Examine his bookes and Papers. The Master of the Sloope fearing to bee Stoped, Sailed without my Knowledge and Carried Some of my things with him.

I Wrote to your Honors in mine of the Seaventh Instant, that I had perused M^r Brookes and M^r Trotts bookes of Entrys, that I found they both used One form, which Signifies Little, but now upon my Second Comeing to his house hee has Shewne mee Two other bookes of Entrys Some are Well and regular done att Such Times as the Governor would Lett him bee quiett, and follow the busines of his Office; hee has kept a just Account of the money received by him and of his Necessary disbursements, in prosecution of Seizures, I have Shewne him the Methods of Keeping his bookes, and question not if itt please God hee recover (which I much doubt) but hee will bee a diligent Officer, I believe hee is a just man in his Office, hee has been torne a peeces by Vexatious Suites and Imprisonments Occasioned by his Seizing and prosecuteing Vessells. I find by Richier's Papers under his Own hand, That hee was false and Tracherous to the Interest of the Crowne and a Cruell Oppressor of M^r Trott, Col^t. Goddard differed in little from him. Endeavoring his utter ruine att home, and with your Honors by false Reports, and Seeing after all my Endeavors that I Could not See any persons or the depositions of those who Clamoured against him, I desired the Inclosed Advertisement to bee published in the Church as is usuall to bee done upon all Occasions but twas denied.

I did Likewise represent to your Honors in mine of the
Seaventh

Seaventh Instant that Captaine Briscoe Comander of the Sun [*sic*] prize Imported Seaven Hoggfedds of Sugar from St. Christophers to these Islands and Landed them in Towne I have Since taken the Deposition of Samuel Stone appointed Searcher by M^r Trott, hee lives in Towne hee Swears that Captaine Briscoe told him hee had Tenne Hoggfedds of Sugar a board, and told mee hee durst not take Notice of itt because the Governor had bought a great part of itt, M^r Trott was then att home not well, I lately heard that Col^t. Goddard has Sent your Honors depositions against him, what they Containe, by whom Sworne to, and before whom taken I Cannot Learne.

what Ever itt bee It's done in utter malice against him, I humbly move your Honors in behalf of your Suffering Officer to give Creditt to none of them, till They are proved to be true to his face, if hee live So long, no honest man of an Estate upon the place will accept of your Honors Deputation to bee Collector when hee Sees how Barbarously and unjustly M^r Trott has been used by the late Governors for doing his duty I desired the Governor to lett mee have the Names of the persons hee Appoints — the Officers in the Court of Admiralty, that I may informe your Honors, hee tells mee hee Intends to make no Standing Officers, but make them as Occasion requires and Such persons as hee thinks fitt, then. Itt may prove of ill Consequence to his Majesties Service if hee putt in men of neither Estates in the Country nor had honesty in London, as one Gilbert Nelson who run away out of towne Thirteene Thousand pounds in debt (as hee has Confessed here) this man is made one of the Councill and as Cheife Judge of these Islands has in his
power

power the lives and Estates of all his Majesties Subjects here, Contrary to the Instructions from his Majesty to the former Governors as I am Certainly Informed by those who know itt.

All Which is humbly Submitted

by —

Indorsed —

John Trott being Sworne Sayeth That the Writeing on both fides of this paper Is the hand Writeing of Esq^r. Randolph As hee beleiveth

J. Trott

Jurat 15 May 1699 before his Excell^{cy}
the Governor Sam Day

CLXXV.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE FROM PRISON.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

from Prison :

Bermuda : May 22 : 99

May it please y^r. Lordf^{pps}

my diligence to obserue y^r. Lordf^{pps} Commands in M^r. Sec^{ry} Popples letter to me of y^e 1 : of Aprill 1697 : requiring me to giue y^e Lordf^{pps} an account of what I fhall Judge proper for y^r. Lordf^{pps} knowledge : in Order to his Ma^{ties} Service . I haue wrote vpon all Occasions the truth of what I haue obserued . it Seems in too plaine Expreffions : Gon^r. Day hauing by the Treachery or Negligence of One I employed to Copy my papers has Copyes of 2 or 3 of my letters to y^r. Board from hence : if there were any thing in
them

them he did not like, he might have concealed it & wrote to y^r Lord^s^{pps} his pleasure about me & that also, but by shewing them to his Councill has Exposed Some of the former Gon^{rs} perhaps himselfe. but however he has managed I am made a Great Sufferer by it. I can vouch by Sufficient persons the truth of what I haue wrote, not out of a designd prejudice to any but because I was commanded by y^r Lord^s^{pps} to write whatsoever etc. I haue done it, & pray onely that if vpon Examining my letters I lately sent by Cap^t Stow, there appeare any thing which has the face of falsehood I desire to be sent for home & haue liberty to make my defence before Impartiall Judges: these being profecutors & Judges also: I humbly inclose a copy of the Commitment, stufd with words & nonsense: if I haue done Damage to any one here the Law is open he may haue full Satisfaction. but I do alwayes beleiue that what ever is transmitted to y^r Lord^s^{pps} tis Safe, & will be made vse of no further then for his Ma^{ties} Service. I intreat y^r Lord^s^{pps} that I may not be destroyed in a Nasty Jakes if not Sufficiently proved will beare an action of Slander onely:

I should do his Ma^{tie} pritty Service & gaine y^r Lords Creditt if I consulted & advised onely with the Gon^{rs} where I come what is fitt & proper to write to y^r Lord^s^{pps} Gon^t Day was pleased to intimate So much & vsed me with great Civility & freedome: giuing me the Charecters of Severall persons. he told me that Cap^t Nelson was a very honest worthy Gen^t that L^t Col^t: Outerbridge was another of his Councill a Just Good man: & So of Some others, exclaiming bitterly ag^t & charging others with Great Crimes & tending to a high degree: but I never heard any thing proved ag^t any
of

of them. Vpon a due Examination of what ye Gon^r was pleased to tell me of those of his Councill I found Cap^t Nelson was a Broaken Eufurer in London for a Great Sum of money & run away heither, and if poeple might Speake Out, (being Cheife Judge) is charged with Bribery as for Outerbridge he was part Owner of the Sloop Amity of these Islands Thomas Tue M^r of whom I made mention to y^r Lordf^{pps} formerly in my account of Road Island: he was at charg to sett her Out to y^e Red Sea & receiued of Tues Atturney aboue 500^l for his dividend: and Certainly a broaken Eufurer & Judge vnder a Suspicion of an ill thing and a Receiuer of stoln Goods are no fitt men to be of his Ma^{ties} Councill in these Islands: yet y^r Lordf^{pps} find their Names in the Order of my Committment. they thought to be Even with me, because I haue Somewhere in my papers to y^r Lordf^{pps} made mention of their Names & qualifications.

I likewise find those who are reflected vpon: are men of the best estates & were of the Councill; not long Since, being old Standards & best acquainted with the State of the Country: and will when every man without feare of Imprison^t may proue the truth of what I haue wrote in my letters to y^r Lordf^{pps} & to my Masters the Comm^{rs} of the Customs. I could well haue spared my selfe the trouble of writing of so many letters, I haue gott onely a Goal by it: I know y^r Lordf^{pps} tyme is alwayes taken up in the Great affairs of the Kingdome I expect y^r Lordf^{pps} will be pleased to remember my vnhappy Circumstances, That, no cause appearing to y^r Lordf^{pps} for my Confinement but y^e Contrary the Gon^r may be forthwith ordred to sett me at liberty: that I may proceed to perfect my Survey in the other plantations:

tations: I find neither treason nor felony in my Committment, & therefore I amailable. tis hard I should be rewarded with Imprisonment onely, for all my past Services. as to receiving Satisfaction from them all for damages: they haue little estate & I shall haue lesse Justice in this place vnlesse y^e Ballance be putt in a more faithfull hand.

All which is humbly Submitted

I am much impaired in my walk by my confinement these Evill doers ought to be severely taken notice of, by being turned out of the Councill for opposing a Gon^t in the immediate Service of the Crown.

[*P. S. on the back in Randolph's handwriting*]

I once again (& perhaps tis the last tyme) humbly intreat y^r Lord^s^{pps} that I may not be crushd to death vnder the burthen of angry & insulting pride: & vanity: Such cafes as mine, Come not Every day vnder y^r Lord^s^{pps} Consideration:

[*Attached inside the letter*]

At a Councill Table holden at y^e Sessions house in S^t Georges on Thursday the 16: day of May in y^e yeare 1699

Present

His Exceth: Sa^m: Day Esq^r Gon^t

Leiftn^t Coll: With Outerbridge

John Brooke Esq:

Cap^t Gilbert Nelson

Sa^m: Sherlock Esq³

Cap^t Richard Penniston

vpon Examining of Edw^d Randolph Esq³ about his writing and contriving Severall false & dangerous papers, words Reports and Expressions by him Secretly & maliciously wrote, Spoken & Expressed towards his Excell^t: Sa^m. Day Esq³
his

his Ma^{ties} present Eſtabliſhed Gon^r of theſe Iſlands: And this Board taking into Conſideration the Great Miſcheife hurt & deſtruction that Such proceedings muſt Inevitably tend towards his Ma^{ties} Interſt & y^e peace & Good Gom^t of theſe his Ma^{ties} Iſlands.

It is therevpon the Vnanimous Judgm^t & openion of this Board: and So hereby Ordred, & required, that Roger Crane Eſq³: provost Martiall Gen^{ll} of theſe Iſlands do immediatly take into his Cuſtody in his Ma^{ties} priſon in S. Georges him the ſaid Edw^d Randolph & him there Safely & Securely Keep vntill he ſhall be thence delivered by Due Courſe of Law.

By order of y^e Gon^r & Councill aboue
To Roger Crane Eſq³ Provost Charles Minors Sec^{ry}
Martiall Gen^{ll} in Bermuda.

a true Copy of the Originall Examined
p Rog^r Crane : S : x : H.

[*Adreſſed*] To the Right Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade
at Whitehall:
humbly preſent:

[*Endorſed*] Bermuda
T^{re} from M^r Randolph re-
lating to his imprifonment
at Bermuda, dated y^e 22nd
of May 1699.

Rec^d 29th June }
Read the 4th July } 1699

Entred Fol. 170
B. 21

CLXXVI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT FROM PRISON.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

S^r:

Bermuda: from Prison: May 22: 1699.

I haue not long since wrote you from hence I hope they with my severall letters from Carolina are receiued: M^r Day y^e Gon^r has had an Evill eye vpon me since I entred in y^e secrys office y^r Lord^{ps} directions to me by M^r Secry Popples letter of y^e 1 of Aprill 97: (to giue their Lord^{pps} an account of what I should Judge proper for their knowledge in Order to his Ma^{ties} service) the first open difference arose vpon my enquiring into y^e Managem^t of the former Gon^{rs} I found them all illegall Traders Every one making their Own Navall Officers their Collectors: This is so also & has made his Navall Officer the Collector: & is a Trader: I according to my instructions from my M^{rs} appointed a Collector in the Room of One lately deceased. I omitt all his vanity & passion: he gott by treachery or neglect of one I employ to Copy my papers a Copy of one of my letters to yr Board. I spoak truth & plaine: he has made me a close prisoner: refusing any to come to me: If I can out liue his oppression I shall declare the truth to the World: you will heare in a little tyme of his exorbitant & illegall practices vpon divers M^{rs} of vessells who have been forced to touch here for wood & water or to stop a leake:. I haue wrote to my M^{rs} to obtaine an Order from his Ma^{ty} for my discharge being charg^d with writing & Contriving false & dangerous papers words etc by him secretly & maliciously wrote . . I humbly referr your Hon^r to y^e Copy sent to y^r Board by this shipping . in which are abundance of
Nonfenficall

Nonfensicall expreffions: his great care & paines about me is to haue me rott in goale: I pray god forgiue him & fend me where wee may discourse vpon evenground. I know you will please to affist how & when proper: towards obtaining liberty for y^r Humble fer^t

ED RANDOLPH .

my humble service to M^r Povey the young Gen^t & y^e young lady: y^r Daughter this place affords nothing to present them with:

My humble service to Madam Blathwayt I fend this by Cap^t Kempthorn M^r of the Briganteen Marygold of this place he is a stranger & an Eye witnes to my Imprisonm^t I am not committed for felony or treason tis for speaking & truth which ought to be spoken at all tymes: Every man but this Gon^t has his failings but this many outrageous Crimes he is known a little in London but he [is] feard by all loued by none: . my humble duty to y^e E: Bridgwater pleas lett his Lordsh^p know what a fine Gen^t is recommended to his Ma^t for the Gom^t of these now vnhappy Islands.

[*Addressed*] To the Right Hon^{ble}
 M^r Blathwayt
 at
 Whitehall:
 humbly present:

[*Endorfed*] 22 May 1699
 From M^r Randolph.

CLXXVII.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE, EXPECTING RELEASE.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

(Duplicate)

Bermuda Dec 29 : 1699

May it please y^r Lord^s^{pps}

I received the honour of y^r Lord^s^{pps} Packett by Cap^t Stow y^e 22 instant directed to myself Col^t White & to M^r Edward Jones (the Sec^y of these Islands not yet arrived) together with a Duplicate of their Excellencies the Lords Justices Order in Councill of y^e 31 of Aug^t to L^t Gon^r Day to discharge me from my Imprisonm^t

The 24 Col^t. White with his Son in Law M^r Dickinson & M^r Spotforth y^e Collector came to town to waite vpon M^r Day for my discharge accordingly, but he hastned to y^e Country so that it was y^e 27th before they could speak with him. He told them his Councill mett y^e 1st of January next That, then ; they should haue his Answear. in the meane tyme I am continued a prisoner : and as to his & the Councills issuing a commission to etc : he giues out that he will do nothing in it till he has received the Originall Order. he faintly denied to Colonell White the receipte there of, tis probable it may be sent by Cap^t Stow who brought M^r Day his Ma^{ties} letter to deliver up Cap^t Adderleys Sloop which he had most injuriously detained 7: or 8 months vnder pretence, that $\frac{1}{10}$ part of vessell & lading was due to his Ma^{tie} & $\frac{1}{15}$ part there of was due to him as Vice Admirall for no other Reason but because she touched vpon a Rock coming

ing into S^t Georges Harbour. Tis the Opinion here that if M^r Jones with whom M^r Day Sayes the Originall Order of Councill is intrusted should Miscarry (which God forbid) that he will not issue y^e Comms^s as directed, on purpose to gaine the tyme.

I shall take all occasions humbly to represent to y^r Lord^s^{pps} an account of all our proceedings in these affaires which shall be managed with all Justice & Moderation if M^r Day think fitt to issue the Commission & to permitt vs to Sitt.

Vpon the News of the Spanish Embassadors being Ordred to depart England I haue iust now wrote to M^r Blake the Gon^r of Carolina by Cap^t Stow . To haue a Stri^ct Eye vpon their neighbours the Spanniards at the fort & town of S^t Augustine about 40 or 50 Leagues to the Southward of Charles town (as I haue formerly humbly shown in my letters of Aprill last from Carolina to y^r Lord^s^{pps}) Mistrusting they may be influenced vpon it, to take advantage of their present calamity, by the death of nigh 200 persons in Charles Town, and reviving their pretended Right, a Second tyme, to all the Southern part of Carolina vp to Ashley River, make themSelves M^{rs} of y^e whole Province, being in great disorder & not in a Condition to defend them Selves & Country. the Spanniards lay claime to these Islands also :

All which is most humbly Submitted
by ED RANDOLPH.

[*Endorsed*]

Bermuda

Le^{tr}e from M^r Randolph

to y^e Board : Dated in Bermuda y^e 29th of Dec^r 1699

Rec^d

Rec^d 1st }
Read 5th } April 1699

Entred fol. 268

B. 47

Exd^t

CLXXVIII.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON HIS RELEASE.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.

Bermuda. Jan^{ry} 3. 99

May it please y^r Lordf^{pps}

The 22 of Dec^{ber} past I receiued a packett from y^e Lordf^{pps} by Cap^t Stow directed to myselfe: Col^t. Anthony white & M^r Edw^d Jones the Sec^{ry} of these Islands with the inclosed Duplicate of their excell^{cy} the L^{ds} Justices Order in Councill of y^e 31: of Aug^t last

The 27th following Collonell white attended y^e Gou^r with a Copy of the Said Duplicate to gett my Discharg but the Gou^r putt him off till the next Councill Day : keeping me a close prisoner.

The councill mett the first instant but being Holyday all bufines was adjournd till the next. Col^t white then attended & prayd the Duplicate might be read in Councill, vpon reading thereof a great Debate arose : the Gou^r & M^r Nelson the Chiefe Justice vrged their Opinion that they were not obliged to take Notice of a Duplicate : but to stay till y^e Gou^r had received the Originall.

At last they agreed & made their Order whereof y^e Inclosed is a copy . Signd by my Selfe & Coll: white being not yet impowrd to take a Deposition.

I was dischargd the day of the date here of from my nigh
9 months Severe Imprisonm^t for which favour I return my
humble thanks to y^r Lordf^{pps} & in all duty remaine

Your Lordf^{pps}

Duplicate of my letter
Via Nevis

Most humble & most obedient
Ser^t

ED. RANDOLPH

[*Endorsed*]

Bermuda

Letter from M^r Randolph
dated in Bermuda y^e 3^d of
Jan^{ry} $\frac{1699}{1700}$ ab^t his releasement
out of Prison

Rec^d 29th April }
Read 29th Ditto } 1700

Entr^ẽ fol 270
B. 48

CLXXIX.

RANDOLPH TO JACOB MEARS.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

Burmuda Ianuary the 19th 1699

S^r

I acknowledged in Mine of the 29th Decemb^r past (via
Medera) that on the 22^d I rec^d yours of the 30th of Novemb^r
past by Cap^t Stow, That Cap^t Walker and Cap^t Ad^ẽrley
recd yours to them, and M^r Day had his Majesty^s Order to
Deliver up your floope to Cap^t Adderley, Without Charge
hee removed hir from that place where she had been Kept
since

since hir feizure To another nigh his houle more Conven-
ient y^e better to see hir repaired, I call^d On him the 12^o
Instant To know what Condicon^o she was in, hee told mee
The Carpenters said shee must bee new Bottomed, hir
Sayles are Indifferent butt Twill Cost neare 200^{ll} before she
is ffitt to goe to sea; I will some Times goe that way to see
how the Worke goe^s fforward, haveing been at Liberty
ever since the 3^d instant, after nigh Nine months Imprif-
onm^t I observe Yow write in One of your Lett^{rs} to Cap^t
Adẽrley, That yo^r Brother Gave: A: 1000^{ll} Bond, To
answer M^r Day^s pretentions to ffee^s before yow Could ob-
teyne his Majesty^s Letter to him for the Delivery of yo^r
floope Certainly: if M^r Day by Extraordinary Aplication,
has Obteyne^d such an Order T[']is against the Polecy of these
Islands, and A publick Greivance To all Merchants Trade-
ing to these Westerne parts of the World, Who are Obleiged
Humbly to adřefs his Majesty for releife or will bee fforced
in A Little Time To knock off; ffor now since t[']is Knowne
that Cap^t Adderley^s Sloope has beene stopt here: 7 or 8:
months under pretence of ffees; Mast^{rs} will runn all hazards
at sea rather then ffall into M^r Day^s Mercilefs hands: You
further Ad to him, that hee must send yow an Estimate of
all Disburfm^{ts} upon the repaire of the Sloope — Taken by a
Notary publick To the Lords Com^{rs} for Trade, I wrote
formerly upon another Occasion, That The Secretary is the
Notary publick and the Governo^{'s} Creature, That hee nor
any of the Iustices of the peace would Take a depofition,
till they had Acquainted the Govern^r ~~With~~ the Contents of
itt: ; Thereupon their Exellencies The Lords Justices by
their Order in Councill of the 30th of Aug^t Last, Did
require

require M^r Day, and the Councill, To Iffue out A Com[̄]iffion To my felfe to Collon^{ll} Anthony White and To M^r Edward Jones (Comeing Over Secretary of Thefe Islands) To bee Juftices of the peace, and any of us to Take all Depofitions &c, Butt M^r Day being Confcious of Moft Notorious Crimes, Comitted by him fince his being Governo^r Delay^s that Comiffion, as by his Order now Tranfmitted to the L^{ds} Comiffion^rs (as by A Coppy Thereof I now Enclofe unto M^r Povey at the Councill Chamber, Appeare^s) and Thereby Frufrates The Intent of Theire Excellencies Order—I beleive That upon his Majeftys heareing the Whole Matter Yow will have leave to proceed Againft M^r Day for Damages, (Nott Much Lefs then: 7: or: 800^{ll}) But T^{is} a great Queftion how yow Will Come by the Money:

Some Thinks hee Intends for S^t Thomas^s or Correfco To prevent his apea[̃]reing at Whitehall becaufe hee Converts all into Money Or Merchandize fitt to Carry wth him, But if hee bee foe hardy To ftand it out, and hee gett to England, Yow will find the Broken Linnen Draper Metamorphoffed into A broken Govern^r, Retired to his fformer Lodgeing, in the King's Bench or the Marfhallsye, beſides twill bee A horrible Injuſtice To his Creditors heere, Who if hee bee Called home, Will Irrecoverably Loofe their Money^s by him As ſome of Them Did by Collon^{ll} Goddard the late Governo^r Unleſs he bee ordered to pay them before his Leaving this place, I Know great aplication, will bee Made to his Majeſty by ſome perſons to ſucceed M^r Day In the Govern^t of theſe Iſlands, W^{ch} will not bee Worth above: 500^{ll} per ann; And A Gen^t of an Eſtate at home, Will not bee Induced to leave his Native Country, upon ſuch In-
defferent

defferent Termes, and if hee bee worth nothing, this is nott the place to make his fortune: (I Offer to yow onely my Opinion, That itt would bee ffarr better for his Majesty^s Imediate service In those Islands That A Commiffhon be forthwth Directed, To myfelfe (if upon y^e place) Collon^h Anthony White, Cap^t Charles Walker Cap^t John Tucker of S^t Georges Cap^t Thomas Harford, and M^r Samuell Spoff-erth Men of the Best Estates in The Country, To take upon them The Govern^t of these Islands, That his Majesty May bee thereby ffully Inform^d of the state and Great Import of These Islands to the Crowne: and that itt Will putt itt Out of the power of any succeeding Gov^{er}no^r To Opprefs and Invade The Just Rights of his Majesty^s Loyall Subjects of Burmuda, The precedent Govern^{rs} Tooke the ffleece as ffast as itt Grew, This fflea^s off the skin, hee has Drove off Many of the Inhabitants by unheard of Exa^ctions and Destroyed the Lawfull Trade of Others: S^t I write to yow as yow seeme to mee by your Letters A man of A publick fpiritt, w^{ch} has Encouraged Mee ffreely To Comunicate My sentiments, In relation to your private Los^s fusteyned by M^r Day, and Methods to prevent The Like to others for the ffuture, The Obteyning whereof, is an Ample Grattiffication expected from:

S^r Yours: humble ser^t

ED RANDOLPH:

[*Addressed*] To M^r Jacob Mears: Merc^t
at M^r Sampfons Mears Merc^t
in S^t Mary Ax:
London

To M^r Jacob Mears

CLXXX.

CLXXX.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON DAY'S CONDUCT.

*Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. III.*Bermuda : Jan^{ry} 29th 1699May it please y^r Lord^s^{pps}

I received the Packett from y^r Lord^s^{pps} y^e 22 of Dec^{ber} by Cap^t Stow, directed to M^r Edw^d Randolph, Col^t. White & m^r Edward Jones Secry, to go ther with the inclosed Duplicate of their Excell^s the Lords Justices Order in Councill of ye 31 of Aug^t past to M^r Day leiftn^t Gou^r of these Islands forthwith to Cause a Commission to be issued vnder the Publick Seal constituting & appointing my Selfe Col^t Anthony White & M^r Edward Jones to be Justices of the peace in these Islands to examine witnesses & take Depositions vpon Oath etc : but he delayed calling his Council till the first instant : they mett again y^e 2 : & then they made the Order (N^o 1) designing on purpose incase M^r Jones had not arrived till March or Aprill (which Some tymes falls out to vefells which misse y^e Islands) that nothing should be done in the mean tyme, & thereby wholly evade the intent of their Excell^s Said Order.

M^r Jones arrived ye 20th. instant & the 23 following I received a Summons (a Copy whereof (N^o 2) is inclosed,) vpon which (Col^t. White being likewise Summoned) I with M^r Jones attended at the Seffions house, where after wee had taken the vsuall Oaths: the Commission being dated the 2 instant the day when it was Ordred & sealed was delivered to me but the Gou^r directed me to return it to M^r Minors that
 he

he might Record it & afterwards he returnd it to me in company with Col^t. White.

By this designed losse of so much tyme from y^e 22 of Dec : to y^e 24th instant we are So streightned that we Cannot possibly gett any Depositions ready to send by this Conveyance but will send them by a vessell bound hence to Jamaica.

I am obliged for the favour of y^r Lord^s^{pps} letter of y^e 27th of July past : & for y^r great Care & readines to dispatch y^r Letters to M^r. Day for my Enlargment: yet notwthstand- ing I had not my liberty till the 13 instant otherwise Hee & M^r. Nelson were So pleased to haue me in prison that they would keep me there So long as they kept in the Govern^t.

I am likewise further obliged that y^r Lord^s^{pps} take notice of & approue my Services & to assure me of your readines vpon all occasions to do any thing that may be proper for my Encouragem^t: I intend god willing So Soon as I am able after my nigh 9 months Imprisonm^t to vndertake a voyage & a Safe passage presents (for these Seas haue been infested with Pyrates) to go to providence where M^r. Read Elding a known & late Pyrate is by y^e Death of Cap^t. Webb the present Gon^r. & from thence to North Carolina where I shall meet with an vngovernd & licentious poeple to manage, the Gon^r. (as I hear) being a well-wisher to their Humors: from both places I shall by way of virginia or from hence after I haue visited the Northern provinces inform y^r. Lord^s^{pps} my remarks vpon their Gom^t: & Trade. Bermuda lyes in the Center of my businis. I haue by my long confinem^t gott a Cold Numbnes in my Right knee & leg so that I cannot endure the the fategues of tedious Cold travelling by Sea or
land

land as formerly & would be willing to call this moderate clymate my residence vnlesse I am commanded to attend my M^{rs} at home; after my more then 25 yeares Serving y^e Crown in the Bufines of y^e Customs in which I haue made 15 Voyages to & from his Ma^{ties} plantations on ye Continent of America: to London & vndergone great hazards & Dangers besides loffes & greater troubles, hauing been 10 months a prifoner in Boston At another tyme, forcd to lye feveral dayes & nights in a Swam[p] in Maryland, when Col^t Copley was Gon^t to escape being made S^r tho. Laurence his fellow prifoner or worfe & now nigh 9 months in this Country, for all which I never found any other cause then my diligence & care to follow my Instructions; but God almighty has preferu'd me: & will enable me I hope to perfect my Survey, which if I had had a vessell to tranfport me would haue been fooner done & with little delay

All which is humbly Submitted
by ED. RANDOLPH S. G.

[*Addressed*] To the Right Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs}
for Trade & Plantations.

[*Endorsed*] Bermuda
Lre from M^r Randolph dated
in Bermuda y^e 29th Jan^{ry} $\frac{1699}{1700}$
ab^t his releasement out of
Prifon &c

Rec^d } 29th April }
Read } 1700

Entr^ẽ fol. 271

B 49

CLXXXI.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. IV.

Burmuda, January Ultimo 1699

Copy.

May it please Your Lordshipps

This accompanys mine of the 29 Instant, in w^{ch} I inclosed Coppys of M^r Day, and his Councils Orders in Council, of the 2^d Instant, and allsoe of their Sham Commisson of the peace of the Same Date, Though in Truth, not Executed till the 24th Following, Divers of the Inhabitants, have applyed themselves to mee and to Collon^{ll} White, to take their Depositions of great Oppression And Injustice done them by M^r Day and M^r Nellson The Cheife Judge, by w^{ch} they are Damaged in their Estates to a great Vallew,—but in as much as the Governour and Council, have refused to Issue such a Commisson To my felfe Collon^{ll} White and M^r Edward Jones, according to the True Intent, of their Excellencys the Lords Justices Order in Council of the 31 of Aug^t past, to M^r Day : Wee hold Ourselves not legally quallified, to Take Depositions of any Matters, Forraine from what are perticularly Expressed in their Excellencys Said Order. Wee have a flying rumour, That M^r Day Will bee Com-manded home, to attend his Majesty att Whitehall, to answer the Severall misdemeanors Charged And now proved upon him : w^{ch} Doth very much trouble Some of the Suffering Inhabitants, who Will bee rewined in their Estates, and left out of all hopes of recovering their Just Dues of him ;
if

if hee Should Goe home, and not Firſt be Obleiged to make them Satisfaction for their Damages upon the place, (being In Noe Capacity, to Follow and Sew him to England) Otherwiſe his Goeing away, Will bee More Fatall, then his Continewing in Government; T'is probable application, Will bee made by Some, to Succeed M^r Day in the Govern^t of theſe Iſlands, They are Certainly of Such Great Import to the Crowne, as not to bee Intruſted to The Care of Neceſſitous perſons, as Weere Collon^l Godard and Eſpecially M^r Richeires and M^r Day, two broken Linnen Drapers; of Worſe Moralls; I have (my Lords) Noe prejudice to Either of them; I heartyly pittie M^r Day, and forgive him his Folly to mee Tis my duty to his Maſteſty, and the Care I have to promote Legall Trade that Obleiges Mee to write plaine Engliſh upon this Subject I therefore humbly propoſe That his Maſteſty will bee pleaſed to Suspend the Sending another Governo^r hither untill the Matters Charged againſt the preceeding Governo^{rs} Now in England be proved, and his Maſteſty bee thoroughly Inform^d how much t'is the True Intreſt of the Crown That the Inhabitants in theſe Iſlands, bee Incouraged and Supported, in their Juſt rights and Lawfull Trade, wthout which they Cannot longer hold out; And to the End There may in the Meane time bee no Faillure of Juſtice that his Maſteſty bee Graciouſly pleaſed To ap-
 poynt Collon^l Anthony White Cap^t Charles Walker, Cap^t John Tucker of St Georges Cap^t Thomas Harford, M^r Samu-
 uell Spofferth Robert White & Major Burrows To take
 upon Them The p^rſent Adminiſtracon of the Govern^t of
 Theſe Iſlands, untill his Maſteſty Shall bee pleaſed Otherwiſe
 To Direct

[*In Randolph's handwriting*] All which is humbly Submitted by ED. RANDOLPH.

Endorfed] Tre from M^r Randolph
to y^e Board, dated y^e 31th of
Jan^{ry} $\frac{1699}{1700}$

Rec^d 24th } May 1700
Read 28th }

Entered Fol 1st
C 10

CLXXXII.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. IV.

Bermuda : Feb^{ry} 20th 1699

May it please y^r Lordf^{pps}.

It was y^e 24 of Jan^{ry} past before wee had a Commission from M^r Day & his Councill (such as it is) to receiue Depositions vpon Oath to proue ye matters Complained of & represented in y^r Lordf^{pps} Report of y^e 20th of July to their Excell^s the Lords Justices: Altho' by their Excell^s Order in Councill of the 31 of Aug^t any One of vs, therein mentioned are directed & required to receiue such Depositions: yet wee went to S^t Georges Town on the last day of of the s^d Jan^{ry} where M^r Jones dwells, as did also divers who liue in y^e Country, on purpose, that he, being a Stranger, and (as wee hoped) an Impartiall man, might be present & ioine with vs in receiving

ing their Depositions: who were then Sworn before vs all: & all of vs did then atest them: which were presently delivered to Cap^t Gilbert (bound to Barbados) to be tranſmitted to y^r Lord^ſ^{pp}s purſuant to their Excell^s Said Order. After wee had perfected the depofitions M^r Jones demanded to haue Copyes; which wee were vnwilling to grant not finding that we are by their Excell^s Order Commanded ſo to do: beſides wee did foreſee that wee ſhould thereby expoſe ſeverall of the Depon^{ts} to y^e Malice & Oppreſſiō of M^r Day: who is ſtrictly charged by the ſaid Order (to uſe No illegall & indirect practiſes to hinder M^r Jō: Dickinson, or any other perſon from repairing to Eng^d in order to cleering vp the ſ^d Matters) but they who go about to proue thoſe matters here run themſelues into a Goal if it can be made appeare they haue Sworn ag^t him: and they muſt lye there, during his & M^r Nelsons (the cheife Judge) his pleaſure, yet, never the leſſe, that M^r Day might haue no pretence to protract the tyme (his laſt ſhift) thereby to avoid ſending his anſweare in writing, to all ſuch matters as ſhall be be [*ſic*] objected ag^t him, wee (ſoon after) drew vp a paper (whereof the incloſed is a Duplicate) containing the Matters of fact proved ag^t him in the ſaid Depoſitions, & communicated it to M^r Jones to haue him ſign it & ioine in the delivery to y^e Gon^r: he refuſed; but wee preſented it y^e 20th inſtant which is 6 or 7 weekes before any veſſell will be ready to Sayle from hence to Eng^d.

M^r Jones being the Sec^{ry} & provost Marſhall of theſe Iſlds (Offices inconfiſtent to be intruſted in one perſon & vnder the Gon^{rs} check) is therefore neceſſitated to Court his favour, otherwiſe he would make little benefitt of his places.

Neither

Neither permitted to execute either of them vntill he had giuen 1000^{ti} Security (at least) for his faithfull discharge (as has been done by his predeceffors, but the Gon^r Conniues, tho' aganst the Sense of the Inhabitants, who are greatly diffatiffied, That the Records of all their Eftates should lye in the Hands of a Stranger vntill Secured by sufficient Bonds. and from hence it is that M^r Jones has obstructed the maine End for which y^e Commiffion was intended: besides he has told vs, that he cannot act with safety to himselfe, becaufe (being by his Office of Provost Marshall the Sheriffe) he is finable 500^{li} if he acts as a Justice of the peace during his being Sheriffe.

All which is humbly Submitted

By ED RANDOLPH

ANTHONY WHITE

[*All in Randolph's handwriting, except the signature A. White*]

[*Addressed*] To the Right Hon^{ble}
the Lordes Comm^{rs}
for Trade & plantations
at Whitehall

[*Endorsed*] Tre from M^r Randolph &
Col^t White to the Board
date in Bermuda the 20th
of Feb^{ry} $\frac{1699}{1700}$

Rec^d 24 }
Read 28 } May 1700

Entred Fol. 3

C 11

CLXXXIII.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.*Hon^d S^rBermuda : ffeb^{ry} 22 : 99 : .

I heard it discourfd soon after my arrivall here . That y^e floop⁴⁹⁰ Happy Jane of these Islands Jonas Clay M^r was bound from hence with provifions etc : to Barbados. twas reported that fhe did belong to M^r Richier & was fitted out on purpofe to carry him off, but prevented, by her being feized & condemnd^r: fhe & her loding were apprized at = 325^{ll} 9^s part of the provifions were fhippd to Caraçaw by Coll Goddards direCTIONS with the affiftance of Stephen Crow his fheriffe & Thomas Brooks his Nephew: he turnd M^r Samuell Trott (then Collector of y^e Customs) out of his place & appointed Brooks the Officer in his Room: who received the returns of thofe provifions in Holland Manufacture.

I fuppofe Coll : Goddard has not giuen the R : Hon^{ble} the Lords of the Treafury nor to your felfe any account of the fūm of 325^{ll} 9^s : for which he is Debtor to his Ma^{tis} but has done as his predeceffors S^r Rob^t Robinfon & M^r Richeir & this prefent Gon^r gett all his Ma^{ties} money into their hands: as if it were one cheife part of their duty to defraud his Ma^{tie} of his Right: & opprefse his fubjects :

I

⁴⁹⁰ For a full account (Goddard's fee *Calendar of State Papers, America* verſion) of the affair of the Happy Jane, and *West Indies*, 1697, no. 1374.

I know not wheither these Islands are included in y^r Hon^{rs} Grant of Auditor Gen^l of his Ma^{ties} Revennue in the plantations. if so: Tis absolutely necessary that you appoint a Deputy to inspect & audite all M^r Dayes accounts: which, by the inclosed Copy of part of his Ma^{ties} Instructions to the Gon^r of those Islands he is to transmitt home etc: as also what publick money has been Raised & how disposed of, by the former Gon^{rs}

I cannot inform my selfe how the present Gon^r has observed that part of his Instructions: but know that he has such an Awe vpon those appointed amongst themselves to that purpose that they will allow & passe any accounts that he proposes to them:

I do therefore recommend to yr favour M^r Samuell Spofferth a man of integrity & of a very good estate in these Islands, (one of the Assistants at y^e tryall of the Happy Jane) to be your Deputy Auditor: which Office he will discharg with zeal & diligence:

I am ready to imbarke for Providence where One Read Elding (a known & late pyratt) is the Gon^r my humble service to M^r Povey & his lady: to Madam Blathwayt & to y^e young Gen^l your sons: & to the little lady their sister Wishing continuance of health and happines I remaine in all duty

your most obliged humble seru^t

ED RANDOLPH:

I haue defired M^r Spofferth to fend herewith to your Hon^r an account of the publick money M^r Day has gott into his hands

hands fince his coming into y^e Gom^t of these vnfortunate Islands. E: R:

[*Endorsed*] Deputy in y^e Bermudas

To the Hon^{ble}

M^r Blathwayt.

From M^r Randolph

Cap Goddard D^r for £325:9^s for the floop happy Jane
feized & condemned

A Dep^{ty} Auditer there neceff^y He recomends

M Samuel Spofferth for that traf [?]

CLXXXIV.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. IV.

Bermuda Feb^y 23: 1699

May it please y^r Lordf^{pps}.

I am now hastning to Providence & North Carolina: where I am fure his Ma^{ties} affaires haue long Since called for me. I leaue this place in as ill a Condition in relation to Gom^t as I found it, M^r Day not conforming to his Ma^{ties} Instructions for the Government of these Islands holds on his Old way of Arbitrary proceedings he is a little more Cautious but as absolute as ever.

In my letters of y^e 29th & 31 of Jan^{ry} past I humbly reprefented to y^r Lordf^{pps} what has been already done in purfuance of their Excell^s the Lords Justices Order in Councill, & that I haue tranfmitted the depositions to y^r Lordf^{pps} via Barbados, Duplicates whereof I now Send by this Opportunity

ity: which I heare will be accompanied by severall Articles exhibited by the poor distressed Inhabitants ag^t the present Gon^r taken privately by the Justices of the peace whose Eyes are now open & are now Convinced of the great Calamities the Country Groans vnder thro' the Oppression of M^r Day.

Col^t. White (whose diligence & zeal to Serve his Ma^{tie} has rendred obnoxious to M^r Day) will not act in y^e Quality of a Justice of the peace because the Gon^r & Councill haue refused to issue a Commission according as is directed by their Excell^s. Said Order least, by taking depositions not immediately relating to the matters contained & limited in their Commission he becomes the Subiect of M^r Dayes Hatred & Iniustice.

I haue notice of a materiall Affidavitt Made by Jonathan Ward privately taken before his Death: he was M^r Dayes Confident & Came heither with him, & was preferrd to be the Sheriffe & Provost Martiall by him of these Islands, but was Soon turned out of his office because he would not Execute M^r Dayes illegall & arbitrary Commands: I beleieve Col^t White will take care to transmitt that & other Depositions to y^r Lordf^{pps} by the next shipping from hence.

I haue left a draft of these Islands & of the Island of Caraw with M^r Sammuell Spofferth the established Collector of the Customs here with orders to send them to y^r Lordf^{pps} they are true done, especially that of these Islands: which shews the Harbors & great benefitt they are to the Crown & also the absolute Necessity of preserving them from being Surprized by an Enemy: I haue not tyme to offer a particuler discourse to your Lordf^{pps} vpon this Subject, of So great Import to the Crown: I heartily wish the Continuance

ance & prosperity of all his Ma^{ties} forain Plantations: but am of Opinion that Neither Barbados nor Jamaica can Countereacte the losse of this place being the key to all his Ma^{ties} other plantations as well those in the West Indies as all the Colonies & provinces on the Continent of America: where if these Islands were in the Hand of an Enemy no vessell could go Out or in to y^e Capes of Virginia not lying aboue 250 leagues W. N. W. from hence but would be taken & the Great Revennue of Customs of tobacco be wholly lost.

I do now & haue formerly transmitted to y^r Lordf^{pps} the Record of the proceedings of the County Court (holden at the flatts in these Islands on ye 13 of July past) ag^t me: where Thomas Burton esq³: One of the Justices of the peace & Soliciter Gen^{ll} was the Cheife Profecutor: he comes over to Eng^d in the vessell by which this with all my other papers are sent. It would be some Satisfaction to me: & Certainly a great discovery to y^r . Lordf^{pps} if he were Summoned to appeare before y^r Lordf^{pps} & required to Shew for what cause I was fined 50^{ti} & vpon what Statute they proceeded: & committed me to prison till I had paid the fine: he will confesse the whole intreague: if preffd hard to giue direct anfwears.

All which is humbly Submitted
by ED. RANDOLPH.

[*Endorfed*]

To the R. Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs} for
Trade at Whitehall.
with a Draft of the
Islands of Bermuda
& Carafaw.

Bermuda

Bermuda

Here from M^r Randolph of
the 23th Feb^{ry} $\frac{1699}{1700}$ wth Acc^t
of his departure thence towards his
other Charge, Of M^r Day's Car-
riage since Orders receivd, Of
M^r Ward's Affidavit, Of the
importance of those Islands
And of M^r Burton his chief Pro-
secutor now going over.

Recd 7 June 1700

Read 11th Ditto

Entred Fol 8

C 23

CLXXXV.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE STATE OF
THE BAHAMAS.

Boara of Trade, Proprieties, Vol. V. p. 281.

New Providence March. 11 : 99

May it please y^r Lord^f^{pps} :

I fett out from Bermuda in a New, but very Small Sloop
of 30 foot by ye Keel ye 2 instant for these Islands, & in 3 or
4 hours after wee broak Ground, run vpon a Rock & beat 5
or 6 hours which made vs very leaky wee endeavoured to
gett into a harbour to Stop our leaks but were forced to
Sea & ply our pumps till our arrivall here the 10th instant.

Read Elding (of whom I haue wrote y^r Lord^f^{pps} in some
of my former letters) has ye Gom^t by a Deputation from Col^t.

Webb

Webb . & commiffion at his going to Penfilvania he & 3 more Masters of Veffells with Commiffions from Webb vnder pretence to Suppreffe Pyracý & take one Kelly who had taken Some Veffells forced Edwards, Master of a Briganteen belonging to Bofton to leaue his veffell & fhift for his life, with his men & one Negro woman (beleiving twas Kelly with his Conforts) which Read Elding James Rifby . . . Humble & . . . Groombridge (now at Phyladelphia) brought heither feized & condemnd & fhared her money amongft them.

Tis a remarkable Story the Owners (living here were vpon her being brought in) were vpon a Sham pretence Clapd vp in clofe imprifonm^t till Webb & his Harpyes had gott the Briganteen Condemnd, by which they were not able to appeare at the Court to plead in defence of their Veffell. I fhall by a fafe conveyance from hence make a perticuler Narratiue of the whole proceedings with all the materiall Vouchers to fhew to y^r Lordf^{pps} & to the world the great Mifcheifes which are done to his Ma^{ties} good Subjects by moft vicious & Scandalous fellows who by fome way or other make an Intereft to gett into Gom^t

Were the L^{ds} proprietors Strictly obliged by Bond to make reparation for all the damages & ruins they bring vpon his Ma^{ties} Subjects by their negligence & imprudent choice they make of perfons to fend ouer to be Gon^{rs} in the Severall proprietyes, they would either make a better choice or Submitt their Countrys to his Ma^{ties} immediate Gom^t

All which is humbly represented

By ED. RANDOLPH.

Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade.

[*Addressed*]

[*Addressed*] To the Right Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade
at Whitehall
humbly present.

[*Endorsed*] Bahama Isl^{ds}.
Lre from M^r Randolph to y^e
Board dated at Providence
y^e 11th March $\frac{1699}{1700}$
Rec^d June 24th }
Read July 25 } 1700
Entr. fol 246
F 12

[*All in Randolph's handwriting except the endorsement*]

CLXXXVI.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

Board of Trade, Proprieties, Vol. V. p. 287.

New Providence March 25th 1700.

May it please y^r Lord^{sh}ps.

I arrived here in 8 dayes from Bermuda, where at our first putting to Sea wee run our Sloop vpon the Rocks & Sprung such a leake that wee were forcd to pump night & day to keep her aboue water; till our landing, then bringing her vpon the Carden wee found about 14 inches of a found Ceder plank droue in & So Shattred by that Stroke vpon the Rocks, That twas Gods Great mercy wee were not all loft.

I am I thank God in health, but not recovered of the lamenes I got in Goal at Bermuda from whence, as also via
Barbados

Barbados I humbly tranfmitted feveral depofitions & papers in anfwear to y^r Lordf^{pps} Commands received in December paft. I landed the 10 instant & finding M^r Read Elding (tho' illegally got) actually in the poffeffion of the Gom^t the next day (after fome debate had with him) I adminiftred to him the Oath purfuant to the Act for preventing frauds etc; Tho Severall objections were at that tyme made to ye Contrary, viz. That he affumed ye Gom^t by vertue of an illegall Commiffion Clandeftinely obtained from Webb, Copy where of N^o 1 is enclosed, being alfo Contrary to the Lords Proprietors Inftuctions which direct the Method of appointing another Gon^t in cafe of the death or departure of y^e prefent. N^o 2 befides Webb went away on a Suddaine to phyladelphia, not hauing firft advifed with the Councill nor had the confent of any One of them about his appointing Elding his deputy, which was not known to any of them till Webb was vnder Sayle. So that y^e Gom^t is of Right invefted in M^r Richard Peterfon a lords Deputy & the firft in Councill: but they finding y^e Inhabitants devided & ready to caft off all Gom^t chofe rather to Sitt Still then hazard y^e peace of the Country & expect the L^{ds} proprietors directions in that matter

But the cheife thing before I gaue the Oath that I fcrupled at, was, That Elding vnder pretence of a Commiffion to him from Webb to apprehend pyrats etc: N^o 3 chafed a Briganteen belonging to Bofton John Edwards M^r & pyratically feized her & her loading (as by y^e M^{rs} Depofition N^o 4 appeares) Webb Elding & y^e others to whom he had given the like Commiffions fhared y^e money they found aboard.

Elding does not onely braue it out vpon the Commiffion
Webb

Webb gaue him to be L^t Gon^t but Supports himself in y^e lawfulness of y^e other Commission N^o 3 to take pyrates, but Setts a very high value vpon his Services by the accidentall Seizing Hind y^e pyrate & afterwards Executing 6 of his accomplices. Hind & 4 of his men were Surprized vpon an Island 10 or 12 leagues from hence by a Bermuda man, the 30 others were taken by chance & executed also, but One of the foure hauing nothing proved ag^t him was dischargd & sent by Elding to Cutt Logwood at Campeach run away & beleives his good services ag^t Hind etc. will Expiate for his own piracy vpon Edwards.

Hee a day or two ago caned M^r Gower a Lords Deputy most severely & keeps him in prison for questioning his power to appoint a Judge to try ye Pyrates a thing questioned by all the Lords Deputyes. their Lord^s^{pps} at home are very Carelesse & ignorant of their Own Interest & of the Good of the Inhabitants, tho many Complaints vpon iust grounds are made to their Lord^s^{pps} humbly praying Reliefe yet they take no Notice of it: nor of the most arbitrary Gom^{ts} of Trott & Webb, neither of the late action done by Elding ag^t Edwards, which they had notice of (as by a Copy of their Lord^s^{pps} letter to Webb N^o 5 appears) where in they discourse him very indifferently vpon that matter. those Inhabitants are dayly more vnsettled & will giue little Credit to what their Lord^s^{pps} Say or promise them they will do for their Encouragem^t when at the Same tyme they Sell & dispose of their privileges for very inconsiderable Sums, as Hog Island lying to the Northward of Providence which makes the Harbour. tis after after Severall Grants & Confirmations thereof to the Inhabitants sold to M^r Trott
for

for 50th as appeares by paper N^o 6 to the vtter ruine to the Inhabitants of this town. Their Lordf^{pps} haue likewise granted away the Royalty of the whale fishing & a great part of the Island of Abbico to One Dudgeon (lately Sec^{ry} & Marshall of Bermuda, a Sort of Stockjobber) for 30 yeares as appears vpon Record here, Neither do they regard into whose hands the Gom^t of these Islands Comes. I am well informed that for more then 7 yeares last past Seldome lesse then 4 known pyrates haue been of y^e Councill

I brought heither Commiſſions to perſons vpon the place to be Officers in the Court of Admiralty here, but all of them (except Ellis Lightwood the intended Judge) are either dead or removed, I find him an ill man & was a buſy promoter of oppreſſion in Trotts & Webbs tyme, as appears by the Records of y^e Courts in which he was Judge: beſides he is the Onely Security for Bridgman alias Everyſ appearing here when demanded, in one bond of 1000^{li} & alſo for 10 or 12 of his Company in a like bond of 1000^{li} for Each of their appearance: So that I haue Suspended the delivery of the Commiſſion to him for that reaſon. Tis expected that Orders will be directed to Some perſons here to putt thoſe bonds in Suite (twill deterr others) the Securityes haue gott a great deal of money: I know no man So fitt for that Service as M^r Thomas Walker: as to M^r Warren the Attorney Gen^{ll} he is Security alſo for Some of Everyſ men. Parker One of that Gang is married to Eldings Own Siſter, now in town. His Ma^{tie} will haue little Juſtice done him by Elding & others of his party who bear all the Sway here. Webb was directed & proved an apt Scholler vnder Trotts diſcipline & adviſe Elding writes after his Copy &
Expects

Expects to be made y^e Gon^r by which appears the deplorable & miserable Conditions the poor afflicted Inhabitants haue lived in from the tyme of their resettlement after they were droue off & destroyed in y^e yeare 1680 by the Spanniards who watch an opportunity to do the like againe. The Lords proprietors laid out money & sent ouer a few arms with Some ammunition to the value of 36 od money sterl. towards the defence of ye Country. after all their charg their fort is not serviceable, certainly the Inhabitants will either desert the place or Submit to any foraine power that will protect them.

The Interest & the affaires here between the Lords & the Inhabitants are So different & distracted that it will require a long tyme to bring them to a Right vnderstanding, from the Consideration whereof, I humbly propose that his Ma^{tie} will please to require Read Elding to answear in England for his piracy ag^t Edwards, and further that in the mean tyme till there be a Compleat settlement in this & all other the proprieties, that his Ma^{tie} be pleased to direct his Commission to Thomas Walker Esq^r an ingenuous man, One of the Lords Deputyes to be the president, & to Richard Peterfon a Deputy, Isaac Rush Richard Tollefero Thomas Williams Martin Cook Samuell Frith Perient Trott Jeremiah Wells & John Bethell Gent: to be the Councill & to take vpon them the administration of the Gom^t of these Islands (being all of them Settled Inhabitants) during his Ma^{ties} pleasure or otherwise as his Ma^{tie} shall please to direct.

I haue the promise of an Exact draft of these Islands & of the Fort & the Harbour of this town, but being presently bound to Carolina in my return to Bermuda, I haue recommended the care thereof to M^r Walker who will make it his
busines

busines to see them exactly drawn; & transmitt them with
a Compleat narrative thereof to y^r Lord^s^{pps}.

All which is humbly Submitted
by ED. RANDOLPH S. G.

[*Addressed*] To the R. Hon^{ble}
the Lords Comm^{rs}
for Trade

[*Endorsed*] Bahama Islands
Lre from M^r Randolph to y^e
Board giving acc^t of Elding
the Gov^r the disorders there
the weaknes of the place &c
Dated the 25th March 1700

Rec^d 20th }
Read 25th } July 1700

Entr. fol 248
F 13

[*All in Randolph's handwriting except the endorsement*]

CLXXXVII.

RANDOLPH TO POPPLE ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

Board of Trade, Proprieties, Vol. V. p. 307.

S^r

Carolina May 16th 1700

In mine of the 25 March past I wrote you from Providence
Via Jamaica, that I arrived there the 10th of that Month,
after a very great Preservation from Foundring by a leak
we

we gott on the Rocks at Bermuda about 4 houres after we broake ground.

This humbly represents that haueing Seen Severall of the Bahama Islands in my Passage from Providence, I landed here the 10th Inst. I left those Islands in a Very Unsetled Condition the Lords Prop^{rs} being wholly unacquainted with their true Interest & benefitt being actuated p M^r Amy & M^r Thornton ther cheif Managers.

That vast Territory lyes unimproved which if under his Maj^{ty}s Govern^t & directions would bring in a Vast yearly revenue to the Crown: You may please to remember in my Generall discours — which I humbly presented to y^r Board a little before my leaving England that I shewed the design of the Govern^{rs} of these Islands (who goe over worth little or nothing) was to defraud his Maj^{ty} of his Dutyes & the Lords Propriet^{rs} of their Perquisites and to Enrich themselves by all unjust Practices. I mentioned M^r Trott as Cheif, all which & a great deal more I soon found veryfyed of him. The Inhabitants are petitioning to be freed from the arbitrary Govern^t of the Lords & their agents.

M^r Trott has marryed M^r Amy's Daughter, their Lordsp^s by M^r Amy's Perswasion haue sold M^r Trott Hogg Island which makes Providence Harbour for £50: to the ruine of the Inhabitants in the Town of Providence Island.

I find in this Province their Lordp^s by misinformaçon have at least made choice of very Naughty menn to be their Dep^{ty}s and cheif in the administraction and to the great discouragem^t of this most thriving Settlement in these parts of America, And indeed how can it be Otherwise when they give Creditt to none but those that defraud & delude them.

There

There are many Pyratts in the Gulph of Florida, three Masters belonging to Bermuda are here, who had their Veffells taken by them, I narrowly Escaped One that day I arrived here, the Spaniards encourage them, the Frygatts lye in Harbour, and all Trade will in a little time to these parts of the World be destroyed thereby.

I haue many things of moment to represent to the Lords but haue not Opportunity, neither am able to Sett to writing being lame in my Left knee with lying the whole time upon the Deck, the fateagues & hardsp^s I Suffer for want of a Frygott are not to be told, I onely Endure them, I am Endeavouring to gett to Bermuda, where I expect to receive Letters from England, and afterwards to looke into that Place called a Proprietary Govern^t in North Carolina.

I Entreat the favour of you to present my Most humble Duty to all the Lords at your Board, I hope their Lordsp^s will please to move that if a Veffell be not already Ordred for my Transport, there may be Orders sent me from the Admiralty to hire One in Bermuda at Reasonable Termes, for that Service which will with good Husbandry be done at les than half the charge of One from England, Therein you will Oblidge

Y^r Humb^{le} Serv^t

[fgd] ED. RANDOLPH

[*Addressed*] To ye Hon^{ts} M^r Popple Secry^t
att y^e Plantation Office
In
Whitehall
Humbly p^rsent

[*Endorsed*]

[*Endorfed*] Lre from M^r Randolph to y^e
Sec^{ry} dated in Carolina the 16th
of May 1700
Rec^d 10th July }
Read 25th Ditto } 1700

Entr fol. 257
F 20

CLXXXVIII.

RANDOLPH TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ON THE TRADE OF
THE BAHAMAS.

Board of Trade, Proprieties, Vol. V. p. 375.

Charles Town in Carolina May 27th 1700

May it Please y^r Lord^{ps}

In mine of the 16 Inst. to M^r Secretary Popple by Cap^t Taylor I wrote him that I was arrived here the 10 Inst. from Providence, & that I had wrote to your Lordp^s from thence Via Jamaica, incloseing Severall Papers relateing to Read Elding the present Dep^{ty} Govern^r takeing and bringing in as Prize the Briganteen Bahama Merchant of Boston into Providence Harbour, which I hope is rec^d The Inhabitants are alarmd upon the apprehension that the Spanjards of the Havannah will drive them off from their New Settlements, The Walls of the Fort at Providence, next the Harbour are Levell with the ground.

I humbly Inclose a Copy of Thomas Smith's Deposition by which it appears the Govern^r of the Havanah Entertaines & protects the Pyrates, which haue lately taken Severall
Veffells

Veffells in the Gulf of Florida, as alfo 2 Letters from Read Elding the Dp^y Govern^r

By the Inclofed Lift taken out of this Cufome houle it appears that notwithstanding the Severity of the Spanjards ufed to all Mafters and others who have Loggwood aboard, that they have brought 260 Tonns from the 25th of Jan^y paf, to the 26th of Aprill following all which is fhiped off for London, They have now found out the true Way of rayfeing a hufking Rice, there has been above 300 Tunns Shiped this year to England, befides about 30 Tunns more to the Iflands, They are very much Improved in makeing Silk & Every Body has planted Mulberry Trees, to Feed their Wormes — they work very kindly, and if the Country were put under his Maj^{ty} Immediate Govern^t this would Soon be the moft thriveing Plantacon upon the Continent.

[*In Randolph's own hand-writing; alfo the P. S.*] All which is humbly Submitted by ED RANDOLPH

I am haftning to Bermuda tho my lamenes continues.

[*Addressed*] The Lords Comm^{rs}
for Trade
humbly prefent

[*Endorfed*] Tre from M^r Randolph to
the Board about ye Gov^r of Hava-
nah's protecing Pirates who rob
in y^e Gulf — Depofition & Letters on
y^r fubject fent — Lift from y^e Cufome
houfe in Carolina fent wherein w^t quantity of Log-
wood imported — Improvem^t of Rice
& Silk in that Plantation Dated
at Charles Town in Carolina 27th May
1700

CLXXXIX.

RANDOLPH'S ACCOUNT OF THE BERMUDAS.

Board of Trade, Bermuda, Vol. IV.

The Right Hon^{ble} the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade
A paper Humbly presented Shewing the State of
Bermuda or Summer Islands.

The Islands of Bermuda Lye in 25 & 15 N. L So Conveniently that they protect and Secure the Trade from England to all his Maj^{ty} plantations on the Continent of America and Caribde Islands, So Long as they Continue in the Crown of England but if they be over taken by Supprize or Otherwise by the French or Dutch which may Easly be done at this time with 500 Men they will Command all the Trade in those parts of the world which if So will not be Soon Retaken they were upon their first Settlement under a Govern^r and Company as formerly Virginia was and Devided into 8 Tribes or Parishes Each Tribe was Devided into 25 Shares and every Share into 25 Acers and the Spare Land Lying neer the Fresh water in every Tribe was ordered to be Laid out for Building of houses and for Gardens and other Easments to be Adjoyned to them that the people might Inhabite more Comfortly as in Towns.

The Company Resided always in London and did Sometimes Send them over a Govern^r and Sometimes appoynted one of the Inhabitants to be their Govern^r who greatly Oppressed them takeing their Lands from them without a Judge or Jury &c, Infomuch that upon makeing their Oppressions and Complaints appear to his Maj^{ty} King Cha: 2^d their
Charter

Charter was Vacated and those Islands put under his Maj^{ty} Immediate Government.

S^r Rob^t Robinson was appoynted their Gov^r by Com^{mission} under the great Seal of England with Sufficient Salary for his Support he put in all his Officers makeing Rich. Ashworth a Blacksmith his Navall Officer and Afterwards the High Sheriff of those Islands and Terrill a waterman Cap^t of the forts.

He Turned M^r Trott the Collect^r of his Maj^{ty} Customs out of his Office & Imprisoned him 6 weeks in the Castle (by his own Arbitrary Warrant) as by a Coppy thereof Hereunto Humbly Annexed does appear & made . Tho: Burton a Strainger and of no Estate to be the Collect^r in his Roome saying the Comm^{rs} of his Maj^{ty} Customs had no power to Appoynt their Officer where his Maj^{ty} had sent a Govern^r Inlikemanner did all the succeeding Govern^{rs} putting Straingers in all the places of trust and Neglected the men of the Best Estates fitt for those Employments and born in the Country:

But M^r Day Exceeded them in all manner of Oppressions & Injustice he Turned the Best men of parts and good Estates out of y^e Councill and Imprisoned them.

The Names of the former and of the present Members of the Councill:

Col ^t Anth : White	}	{	Gilbert Nelson Esq ^r
Capt. Cha : Walker			W ^m Outerbride Esq ^r
Capt Tho : Harford.			Jn ^o Brooks Esq ^r
Robt White Esq ^r	}	{	Capt Rich Penistone
Capt Micha Burrows			Robert White Esq ^r
Capt. Rich Penistone			Capt. Micha Burrows
Sam ^{ll} Trott Esq ^r	}	{	Jn ^o Sherlock Esq ^r
			There

There are about 1500 famylies in Bermuda

The Militia Consists of Nigh 1000 men Able to have Arms they were formerly Commanded by Col^t White Turned out by M^r Day there are likewise 9 Capt with other Military Officers they Generally are well Armed:

There is one Chapple at S^t Georges were M^r Kendall a Church of England man is the Minister:

And 8 Parish Churches Some whereof haue Gleablands M^r Foule an Independent preacher is Itinerant from one Church to Another M^r Day Receives the proffitt of the Gleabs and the Lands given for publick Schooles and has taken to his own use a great part of the Church plate &c., as by the paper N^o 2 Humbly Annexed does Appear:

2 Practioners of Phyfick

It hath three convenient Harbours the Tide at the Spring Rises 4 or 5 foot

1 Town Harbour where is 16 foot at high water the Entrance is Secured with Two Small forts Built upon Two Rocks that to the Northward is called Queens fort where are Seven Guns mounted lately Commanded by Capt Len: White the other to the Southward Called Smiths fort has about 6 Guns it is very much out of Repair

Castle Harbours has 18 foot at high water that is Secured by a good Castle on an Island on the South west Side of the Entrance where are 28 Iron and 2 Brafs Guns mounted it was Commanded by Capt. Jn^o Peafely a man of a good Estate and Native well quallified for that Trust but Turned out by M^r Day and put in the hands of M^r Jones the Provost Marshall:

1. There is on the Other side of the Entrance a Battery of About 10 Guns upon an Island Also:

2. There is a Breft Worke at St. Georges Town with 9 Guns which secured the Veffells at an Anchor in the Harbour:

3. Elyes Harbour at the west end of the Iflands it has 14 foot at High water the Entrance is difficult and used only by Small Veffells it is Secured by a Small fort having foure Guns.

170 Navigators able to take charge of Veffells and carry them to most known places of Trade

50 Shipp Wrights.

5 Smith forges for Shipp worke.

76 Veffells Built in the Country and all of Ceder of which 4 are Ships of about 100 Tuns.

6 Briganteens from 40 to 60 Tuns.

60 Sloops from 30 to Above 40 Tuns 9 of which were Lately taken by Fardivando the pyrat.

3 or 400 Small Two Mast Boats for Fishing and other Occasion upon the Water.

500 Saylers most of them are Natives of the Iflands being About 400 White men and 100 Negros & Molattos of which number Above 60 Sayle out of Jamacia and Above 30 out of Carafaw where they Manage the Trade with the Spaniards for want of Encouragement at Home.

9 Fortifications in all Some useles a good Engeneir is much want^d there.

76 Guns of which not Above 10 Iron Guns are Serviceable.

Ammunition and Stores under the Court house.

There are in the Magaseen at St. Georges 38 Whole Barrells and 5 half barrells of Gunpowder when M^r Day Entered upon the Govern^t as I was credibly Informed the

27th Febuary Laft by Jn^o Rawlings the Store Keeper but there was not Above the quantity of 3 Barrells when I left the Ifland the 13 July paft as Appears by the paper Delivered to Me by Cap^t Peafely N^o. 2: 3:

The product and Trade of the Iflands.

The firft planters made great quantitys of Tobacco moft part whereof was Brought to England Some have made Sugar, moft places in thofe Iflands very proper for it, they formerly fent great quantities of Oranges Yearly to England and to the Northorn plantations on the Continent and get Eftates: But Since the Orange Trees are blafted and their Ground Barren and Over Run in many places . with very Small Infects (which they Call Ants) they cannot Raife Indian Corn and proviffions Sufficient for their ufe but are forced to fetch it from Carolina & the Northern plantations and now they Make but Little Tobacco: So that they haue no Staple Comodity Growing upon their Iflands they Some Years Carry Fifh, Onions, and Cabages of which they haue great quantities and Sometimes Oyle to Barbabos and the Leward Iflands.

The Small Veffells goe in their Ballas and Load Salt at the Bahama Iflands or Salt Tertuda, which they Carry to Carolina &c. from whence they Bring in Return proviffion and get but Little by thofe Voyages. Others Cutt Brazelett wood at the Bahamas which they fell at Carafaw with their Sloops makeing their Returns in peices of 8 and Hollands Manufacture:

The Inhabitants haue been greatly Discouraged by the Severityes and moft unjuft proceedings of their Govern^{rs}.

1. By Imprisoning the Cheif of the Council and others at their pleasure S^r Rob^t Robinson & M^r Day :

2. By Imprisoning the Officers of his Maj^{ty}s Customes and Turning them out of their places putting their Servants & Confidants &c. in their Rooms the Better to Carry on their Illegall Trade. S^r Rob^t Robinson & Coll Goddard.

3. By Seizing and Condemning Veffells which had the Misfortune to Touch upon the Rocks goeing out or comeing into any of the Harbours Demanding Extravagant Fees and putting the Owners to great charges and Los of Time before they can haue them of M^r Day :

4. By stopping of Veffells Loaden with Onions & Cabages &c. 3 or 4 weeks und^r pretence to Stay for the Gov^{rs} Letters by which their Voyages are over Thrown.

5. By Makeing Straingers the Sheriffs and to Continue them Severall years in that Office who after they haue done many unlawful things to the Inhabitants in the Time of their being Sheriffs, run away in their Debts so that they are Left without a Remidy.

6 By Makeing owners of Veffells pay 10 peaces of 8 for the Registring their Veffells tho of but 30 Tuns where as in other ports they pay not Above Two peices of 8 for all charges :

7 By Exacting from the Tenants of the Kings Lands as much more Quit Rent Yearly as they payd in the former Govern^{rs} Time.

For Redrefs of Some of those Greivances
Tis Humbly Propofed

1. That your Lordships will be pleased to haue the Opinion of the Judge of the Court of Admiralty In England touching the vice Admiralls fees about Veffells Running aground upon the Rocks and Also About Wreck goods which are found upon the Spanish Coast, or Other places not belonging to Bermuda or other of his Maj^{ty} English plantations:

2. Veffells not to be Stopped under pretence to Carry the Govern^{rs} Letters and if Aboue 48 Hours and upon urgent Occasions then by order of Gov^r and Councill:

3. Owners of Veffells to pay but 2 peices of 8 for all the Charges of Registring their Veffells as in other plantations:

4. That the Sheriffs be Chosen out of the Inhabitants only and to Continue in their office but for one year as in England:

5. That the Tenants of the Kings Lands pay to the Gov^r no more Quit Rent Yearly then was formerly paid in Col^t Recheirs Time

And that the Inhabitants may Build for them Selues houfes in Charles Town or Other Common Land Laid out for Town Shipp without paying for the Ground or for Raifing Stones to Build them.

And inasmuch as M^r Day and Some of his prediceffors haue taken to themselves the proffitts of the Gleabs and other Lands Given for Maintaining ministers and Schoolm^{rs}:

That the Succeeding Govern^r demand all those Rents and take Care that they be applyed to the end for which they were given and that he Demand of M^r Day the Church plate Linnen for the Cummunion Table and Books:

And Finally as the Best and only means for preventing the

the Succeeding Govern^r from Oppressing the Inhabitants by Arbitrary Practices as has been formerly done, in those Islands to Raife a Maintainance. Its humbly proposed that the Govern^r of Bermuda have an allowance not Less then 500 £ a Year to Support them in their Govern^{ts}. Proviissions and all Neceffary, being very Scarce and Deare.

All which is humbly Submitted

No^{ber} 15

By

1700

ED. RANDOLPH

[*Signature and date in Randolph's handwriting*]

[*Endorsed*]

Bermuda

M^r Randolph's Account
of the present State of the
Bermuda Islands

Rec^d } Nov^r 6th 1700
Read }

Entred Fol 118

D 1.

CXC.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON THE PROPRIETARY COLONIES.

Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt.

No^{ber} 19th 1700:

S^r

Amongst other papers I sent a copy of the Narratiue of M^r Penns Entrance vpon his Gom^t of Pennsilvania . since which D^r Bray⁴⁹¹ & Georg Keeth mett with M^r Trent a Merc^t &

⁴⁹¹ This is the famous Dr. Thomas Bray, one of the founders of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the pioneer of parochial lending libraries

both in England and in America (*Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1696, nos. 268 and 1050).

& inhabitant lately come from thence: who affirms the most materiall passages in that Narratiue to be true: as his taking away from the Inhabitants of Phyladelphia the Grant of their freedome & Town ship. his being present in the Meeting house at the Election of Asssembly men, & overawing the poeple: His getting a duty to be laid vpon wine and all liquors imported for 2 years which will amount to aboue 1000^l p. ^{an}: but he hoped & expected that they would raise him an equivalent in ready money: some write from thence to Georg Keeth that he is weary of the Gom^t & will appoint a Deputy:

There were also inclosed my propofall to my M^{rs} about the great quantityes of Tobacco yearely carried from Virginia etc: to the Other plantations more then the consumption of those places requires. & also propofalls for preventing the same for the future in which was a short but Apocryphall discourse about the Grant of 1 penny p pound to the [College] in Virginia⁴⁹²: which if I had presented it either to my M^{rs} or to y^r Board would haue brought y^e state as well as the church vpon my Eares. (I haue too heavy a load of high displeasure from S^r Rob^t Southwell. I haue not been as yet admitted to waite vpon nor haue seen M^r Southwell.) and haue therefore expunged that vnseasonable tho' true part of my observation vpon the exportation of Tobacco:.

Tis now nigh 3 weekes ago That I waited vpon the E of Bath the Lord Palatine (as he dreams) of the Bahama ~~Isles~~ & of Carolina: I found his lordsh^p much affected with the
new

⁴⁹² The document referred to is that printed *supra*, Vol. V. p. 230, but it contains no allusion to the College; evidently Randolph has, as he says, expunged the

passage. For the facts, see *Calendar of State Papers, America and West Indies*, 1697, p. 664.

new dignity . yet has a minde to be felling his proprietary ship . as I am since well affurred from One who was consulted about it the others are weary of it: & now I find the design of their magnifying Carolina Especially, as very often sett out in y^e publick prints . which makes his Lordsh^p very vnwilling to part with his share in the Gom^t of that province, Tho' he acknowledges he getts nothing by it: yet twill make his part (as he thinks) se^m the better. his Lordsh^p was very inquisitive about the managem^t of M^r Blake his Deputy & the present Gon^t I gaue him some short hints: of his high misdemeanors done there vpon M^{rs} of Vessells in obstructing trade and seizing & Condemning them illegally: Now Blake is supported by M^r Amy & Coll Trott two other proprietors: and now the former difference between his Lordsh^p & them, openly increaseth: for my lord has commanded Blake to come to Engd to answere the matters charged vpon him: Amy did assent in expectation of Going Gon^t theither but his lordsh^p is resolved ag^t it. And now Coll Trott has been with me severall tymes and I find by him that M^r Amy (his father in law) is for surrendring vp the Gon^t to the King provided he or his son Trott may haue a Commission from his Ma^{tie} to be Gon^t of that province . for they are Resolved to oppose the palatine & be no longer vnder his direction which is the Cause they haue had no meeting these yeare or two: & I find the Earl will no nothing till Blake comes to Eng^d. Butt Coll: Trott: is driving another Bargaine for himselfe seperate from his father Amy (as he sayes) and that is as follows —

Hee assures mee That if his Ma^{tie} will please to grant him a lease of 31: yeares of all the Bahama Islands vpon paying his Ma^{tie} the Tenth part of all Brazelett wood carryed yearly
from

from thence & of wrecks & other perquisites now in the Lords proprieties: That he will discover such a Blott in their Lordf^{ps} Title both to those Islands & also to Carolina. That they cannot recover nor will any one of them beat 5^l charg (as Mr Trott tells me) to defend their Title: for in truth they gett nothing by it their Deputyes share all the profit & leaues their Lordf^{ps} at home as Hostages for their Good behaviour Onely: Thus farr with Coll Trott:

But: I find that the Charter Granted to y^e Gon^t & Company of the Bvrmuda, was in all things as full as any Charter granted to the other proprietors: as ye Lord Baltamore: the Virginia Charter etc: yet they were all vacated by the High misdemeanors of their Gon^{rs}. as appears vpon Record.

Now I haue as plaine proofes of piracy ag^t Read Elding Gon^t of y^e Bahama Islands of vnheard of Injustice vnder pretence of putting the Acts of Trade in Execution & forcing M^{rs} of vessells to pay as ye Gon^t demanded: ag^t Mr Blake the Gon^t of Carolina: And as much vnder the hand & seal of Mr Markhams Mr Penns Gon^t all which I shall draw vp into Articles ag^t them severally with sufficient vouchers to proue each Article. in which I am not to forgett freind Archdale. who harboured pyrates: Entertained known illegall Traders & connived at them: etc: all which when it please God you return I shall lay before your Board when you can be at leifure to be there. heartily wishing the continuance of health & happines to you & y^{rs} I am in all duty

your Lordf^{ps}

my most humble service to M^r
Povey: his Lady & family
were well yesterday.

most obedient &

most humble ser^t

ED RANDOLPH:

[*Endorsed*]

[*Endorsed*]

19 Nov. 1700

From M Randolph

CXCI.

RANDOLPH TO BLATHWAYT ON HIS DIFFICULTIES WITH
THE CUSTOMS.*Collection of the Rev. W. T. Blathwayt*Right Hon^{ble}:No^{ber} 23 : 1700.

This evening I have a Message sent me from a friend belonging to the Custome house: advising that the Comm^{rs} are told I have discoursed reflectingly vpon their Manage: I confesse vpon your directions as one of y^e Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade I did lay before your Board a Narratiue of my Journall: & also duplicates of the papers I transmitted in mine of y^e 17th past. which I have received from M^r popple: & corrected Them but delay the returning them till your arrivall: I guesse some of your Board may have discoursd accidentally with some person That has told some of ye Comm^{rs} that my papers containe custome house busines

Tis true, That I have attended with my papers twise or thrice every weeke, they are so busy that they have not tyme to heare one read. they made an entrance vpon my Narratiue: & some tyme after heard my paper shewing the losse his Ma^{tie} has in his customs vpon tobacco shipd from the plantations on the Continent to y^e Other plantations But have not as yet read my propofalls to prevent it & will perhaps lay me & them both aside: I expect that the Lords Comm^{rs} for Trade will take care of me & hope my readines at all
tymes

tymes to lay before their Lord^s^{pps} all matters relating to Trade to Customs & to improving the Revennue, shall not be my Ruine whilst I haue done my duty to preferue them: I haue no freind but God & you to stand by me. I know not how farr I may be preffed but I am well assured I cannot beare vp against The potent Interest of my Masters: I shall be heartily glad to see you & Mr Povey (to whom my humble service) safe returned. with my humble duty presented. I am

your lord^s^{pps}
most obliged &
most humble seru^t;
ED RANDOLPH..

[*Addressed*] To the Right Hon^{ble}
Mr. Blathwayt . at
Durham: nigh
Bristoll:.

[*Endorsed*] 23 Nov. 1700
From M Randolph



THE PRINCE SOCIETY.



1909

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND
SEVENTY-FOUR.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court
assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1. John Ward Dean, J. Wingate Thornton, Edmund F. Slafter, and Charles W. Tuttle, their associates and successors, are made a corporation by the name of the PRINCE SOCIETY, for the purpose of preserving and extending the knowledge of American History, by editing and printing such manuscripts, rare tracts, and volumes as are mostly confined in their use to historical students and public libraries.

SECTION 2. Said corporation may hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding thirty thousand dollars.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved March 18, 1874.

NOTE. — The Prince Society was organized on the 25th of May, 1858. What was undertaken as an experiment has proved successful. This ACT OF INCORPORATION has been obtained to enable the Society better to fulfil its object, in its expanding growth.



THE PRINCE SOCIETY.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. — This Society shall be called THE PRINCE SOCIETY; and it shall have for its object the publication of rare works, in print or manuscript, relating to America.

ARTICLE II. — The officers of the Society shall be a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer; who together shall form the Council of the Society.

ARTICLE III. — Members may be added to the Society on the recommendation of any member and a confirmatory vote of a majority of the Council.

Libraries and other Institutions may hold membership, and be represented by an authorized agent.

All members shall be entitled to and shall accept the volumes printed by the Society, as they are issued from time to time, at the prices fixed by the Council; and membership shall be forfeited by a refusal or neglect so to accept the said volumes.

Any person may terminate his membership by resignation addressed in writing to the President; provided, however, that he shall have previously paid for all volumes issued by the Society after the date of his election as a member.

ARTICLE IV. — The management of the Society's affairs shall be vested in the Council, which shall keep a faithful record of its proceedings,

proceedings, and report the same to the Society annually, at its General Meeting in May.

ARTICLE V.—On the anniversary of the birth of the Rev. Thomas Prince, namely, on the twenty-fifth day of May, in every year (but if this day shall fall on Sunday or a legal holiday, on the following day), a General Meeting shall be held at Boston, in Massachusetts, for the purpose of electing officers, hearing the report of the Council, auditing the Treasurer's account, and transacting other business.

ARTICLE VI.—The officers shall be chosen by the Society annually, at the General Meeting; but vacancies occurring between the General Meetings may be filled by the Council.

ARTICLE VII.—By-Laws for the more particular government of the Society may be made or amended at any General Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.—Amendments to the Constitution may be made at the General Meeting in May, by a three-fourths vote, provided that a copy of the same be transmitted to every member of the Society, at least two weeks previous to the time of voting thereon.

COUNCIL.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. THE Society shall be administered on the mutual principle, and solely in the interest of American history.

2. A volume shall be issued as often as practicable, but not more frequently than once a year.

3. An editor of each work to be issued shall be appointed, who shall be a member of the Society, whose duty it shall be to prepare,

pare, arrange, and conduct the same through the press; and, as he will necessarily be placed under obligations to scholars and others for assistance, and particularly for the loan of rare books, he shall be entitled to receive ten copies, to enable him to acknowledge and return any courtesies which he may have received.

4. All editorial work and official service shall be performed gratuitously.

5. All contracts connected with the publication of any work shall be laid before the Council in distinct specifications in writing, and be adopted by a vote of the Council, and entered in a book kept for that purpose; and, when the publication of a volume is completed, its whole expense shall be entered, with the items of its cost in full, in the same book. No member of the Council shall be a contractor for doing any part of the mechanical work of the publications.

6. The price of each volume shall be a hundredth part of the cost of the edition, or as near to that as conveniently may be; and there shall be no other assessments levied upon the members of the Society.

7. A sum, not exceeding one thousand dollars, may be set apart by the Council from the net receipts for publications, as a working capital; and when the said net receipts shall exceed that sum, the excess shall be divided, from time to time, among the members of the Society, by remitting either a part or the whole cost of a volume, as may be deemed expedient.

8. All moneys belonging to the Society shall be deposited in the New England Trust Company in Boston, unless some other banking institution shall be designated by a vote of the Council; and said moneys shall be entered in the name of the Society, subject to the order of the Treasurer.

9. It shall be the duty of the President to call the Council together, whenever it may be necessary for the transaction of business, and to preside at its meetings.

10. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents to authorize all bills before their payment, to make an inventory of the property of the Society during the month preceding the annual meeting and to report the same to the Council, and to audit the accounts of the Treasurer.

11. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to issue all general notices to the members, and to conduct the general correspondence of the Society.

12. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a complete record of the proceedings both of the Society and of the Council, in a book provided for that purpose.

13. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to forward to the members bills for the volumes, as they are issued ; to superintend the sending of the books ; to pay all bills authorized and indorsed by at least two Vice-Presidents of the Society ; and to keep an accurate account of all moneys received and disbursed.

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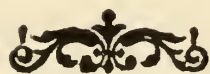
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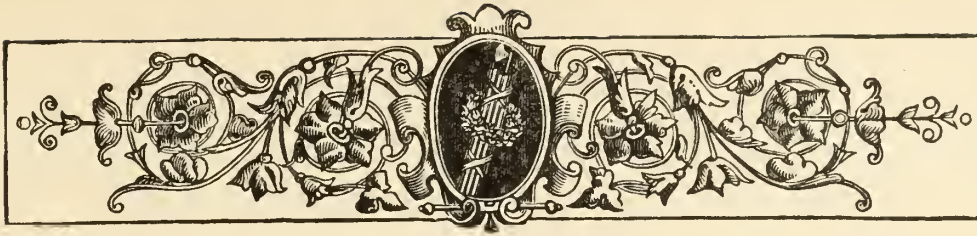
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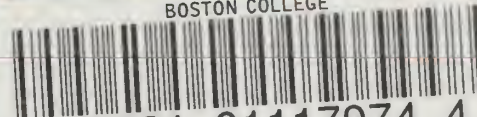
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